

CHRISTMAS
2004
& JANUARY
2005

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Yule That is
Simply Cool!!

THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNICATOR

Vol. 4, Issue 4

"It's
What We
Do For
You!"

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HALIBURTON HIGHLAND'S GOOD NEWS FUN FREE MAGAZINE

Seasons Greetings



School plays are a big part of
Christmas excitement. These
children are from Stuart Baker P.S.

Country Pickins

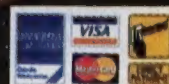
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Telemedicine Is Coming To Haliburton!

Technology Brings Your Out of Town Specialist To You

The rapid advances made in medical science and technology over the last 20 years are staggering. Cat scans, laser surgery, tiny, but real cameras travelling around your body in search of abnormal cells or lesions, all were the stuff of movies or dreams just a few short decades ago. And yet, with all this change, we seem to cling tenaciously to the personal connection we have, if we're lucky, with our own physician, the General Practitioner who knows you, your history, and your family. High tech is great, but where's the bedside manner, Doc?

Well, Haliburton, get ready. Next month "Telemedicine" will officially arrive as the Haliburton Highlands Health Services opens its first "virtual" consulting studio at the local hospital. But don't worry; this will in no way replace your personal connection to your doctor. In fact, it will enable your own doctor to become even more involved with treatments you might need from an out-of-town specialist.

It's simply a fact of rural life that we boast only family physicians, no specialists. This means that for a wide range of treatments and procedures such as surgeries, biopsies, and

endoscopes, to name just a few, must be performed by specialists in Peterborough, Bracebridge, Toronto and so on. Haliburton doctors have close and effective relationships with

many specialists and of course provide constant ongoing care. But for the average patient, treatment by specialists means a lot of travel, a lot of time, and a lot of money. Telemedicine, once up and running, will be able to eliminate many on-going specialist consultations and follow-ups, for example.

The HHHS has officially become a part of the NORTH Network, a telemedicine project which uses live two-way television, cameras

and electronic medical instruments to provide access to specialists for local patients. Specialists in distant cities will be able to examine and talk with patients here in Haliburton almost as if they were in the same room. Each studio, or referral site, is equipped with a specialized patient exam camera for



Donna Tousaw (left) & Beth Archibald are pictured with our local system

Telemedicine cont'd... pg. 3...



**We've
Checked
Our List..**

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Telemedicine Ensures More Effective Accessibility for All Rural Ontarians To Specialist Care

...from pg 2

close-up examinations of an area of interest.

Patients who suffer from Parkinson's disease, for example, and who are used to regular appointments with their specialist to monitor changes in their condition, will be able to be "examined" by and consult with their specialist without leaving town.

It will even be possible, where advisable, for your own family physician to be present at the consultation with your specialist, thereby enhancing effective follow-up care. Where surgery is necessary, some pre-operation visits to the surgeon could be eliminated. The on-site Registered Nurse Practitioner will be able to use the small, digital camera so that the specialist can examine patients with certain kinds of skin lesions, again avoiding the expense and inconvenience of travel to Peterborough or beyond.

And the applications don't stop there. Patients who suffer from depression and other forms of mental illness will be able to have regular, full-length individual, or even group therapy sessions and consultations with psychiatrists in major centres.

Programs like this don't just happen by magic. Dr. Rob Williams, Clinical Director of the NORTH Network, and Maureen Wilkinson, Regional Co-ordinator work closely with local clinics and Health Services to ensure the program gets going, and is successful. Ms. Wilkinson says, "this is a truly locally-driven program. The Haliburton program will reflect what makes sense for this community and its needs." Dr. Williams points out that without effective local leadership, the program has little chance of success, and both he and Ms. Wilkinson are quick to give full credit to HHHS officials and doctors for the program's successful start-up here.

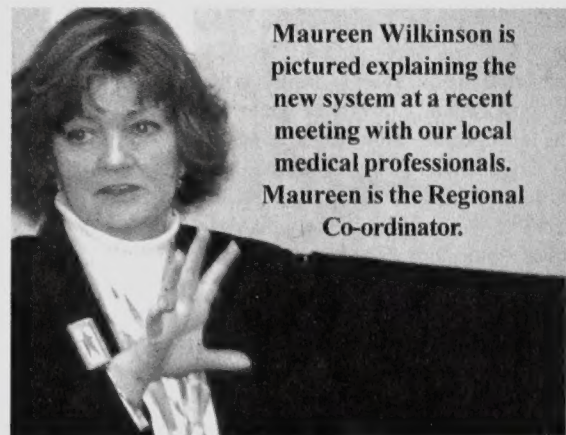


Dr. Rob Williams, Clinical Director of North Network gives an overview of the program.

Dr. Karl Hartwick has championed the program for Haliburton and will be its medical co-ordinator. Beth Archibald, the HHHS Director of Community Services, has worked closely with the NORTH team to get the program up and running, and will be HHHS co-ordinator. Registered Practical Nurse Donna Tousaw will be the on-site operator, working with the specialists and patients, and operating the equipment during each consultation.

As Dr. Williams points out, this program is all about ensuring easier and more effective accessibility for all rural Ontarians to specialist care. And incidentally, he points out that "it's politically sexy: this is clearly a program with great political support."

As for the future, Dr. Williams sees a time when two-way television monitors will be as much a part of your family doctor's office as a computer monitor is now. Which we'll probably all accept as just one more way in which technology can be an effective medical tool.



Maureen Wilkinson is pictured explaining the new system at a recent meeting with our local medical professionals. Maureen is the Regional Co-ordinator.



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Hats Off To Santa's "Mail" Helpers – Our Local Canada Post Team!!

Every Single Letter Is Answered Personally ... By Santa!

The Communicator was recently invited to the Secret place where all the letters from local boys and girls are sent for Santa to come & read, and he even writes back to all the girls & boys...

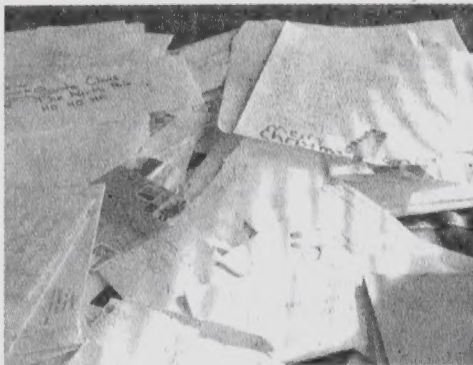
Let's face it: Santa has one highly stressful job once December rolls around. The toys are one thing, the reindeer another, not to mention the weather, star wars etc. But those letters! When will they ever stop?

It's partly Canada Post's fault. If you give someone your very own Postal Code, in this case, H0H 0H0, you're bound to attract attention. And when you guarantee that every single letter, if it has a return address, will be answered personally by Santa, you know the mailbox is going to be jammed.

Canada Post has been offering this terrific service to Canadian children for many years now. Each outlet is in charge of finding a way to deliver the letters to Santa, and then to make sure his replies reach each child before Christmas.

To find out how Santa copes, the Communicator managed to persuade our local Post Office to let us travel through the woods to one of Santa's secret letter writing locations and see just what's involved – so see just how many letters Santa receives from this area (and it was a lot), and to see just how he manages to answer all those letters from so many children, and also – what are they writing. And here's what we found out.

Firstly, Haliburton's children have imaginations that know few limits when it comes to their Dear Santa letters. And if you think that most letters are just a "please bring me this, please bring me that", think again. Our kids aren't just interested in themselves, and the loot to come. They want to know all kinds of things about Santa, his elves, his wife, his reindeer, and are they being fed properly, and what's the weather like? And what would you like as a Christmas treat, would cookies and tea (and carrots for the reindeer) be okay? And if you see a warm cup of coffee by the fire, don't worry, that's my grandma's. Are you sure the reindeer had a good rest this year? Did you have a nice rest too? And I've been pretty



good this year, not perfect, but I've really tried, really. Could I have a bouncy toy puppy, my mum says we can't have another real one. Or how about a pony? My mum won't let me have a real pony either. Oh, by the way, how old are you? And is your wife okay? Are the elves working hard? Do you feed the reindeer enough? Would they like cookies and milk too, I've left some celery and an apple if they don't.

And by the way, what I really want is on page 222 of the Sears catalogue, if you can find it. The red one, and it needs batteries.

And Santa, do you make all your toys, or do you have to buy some? Do you go to Canadian Tire? If you do, I want the remote control Hummer, please.

Santa, you'll really like where we live, it's called Haliburton and we have lots and lots of snow, and it's really cold. Please don't miss us. Dear Santa, this year has been hard for my family, we don't have a lot of money for presents, so could you make sure my little brother gets lots? Please?

Well, it's easy to see just how tough a job Santa has. He has to reply to each letter personally and make sure each child knows his or her letter has been read thoughtfully and thoroughly. Santa also has to be careful not to guarantee that every Hummer and every brand new snowboard will actually show up. And of course, he can't reveal too many personal details about life at the Pole. For example, to the little child who asked his age this year, he tactfully replied: "And now about my age. That is something I like to keep secret but I can tell you I have had many many Christmases. Be good. Love, Santa."

Once Santa replies to the letters, it's up to our local Post Offices to make sure there're



The Communicator was whisked away to Santa's Secret Local Letter Writing Hideaway to see first hand all the letters he receives each year.

Letters cont'd... pg. 5...

**Who We
Are**

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Publisher, Editor, Graphic Design: Joanne Irvine
Reporter / Photographer: Stephen Patrick

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On Your Mark - Get Set - Go... To The Annual Ice Races !!



If you're looking for something a little different to do on the weekends this winter, be sure to head to Minden and check out the Car Racing on Ice at the Minden Fairgrounds in January and February. The Magnum Fine Printing Ice Race Series takes place every weekend starting January 15th and 16th, and sees regular cars and modified cars racing away on an oval (and very icy) track prepared each winter by the Minden Kinsmen.

Most of the cars use regular snow tires but there is also a stud class of racers. The races are a blast to watch and the best part is that it is free for spectators and parking is free. Races run Saturdays from 9 a.m to dusk, and on Sundays from noon till dusk.

The dates scheduled for the races are as follows; Jan 15,16; Jan 22,23; Jan 29,30; Feb 5,6; Feb 12,13; Feb 19,20. If you would like more information on the races, or entering in the races please contact David Hilton at iceracedir@casc.on.ca/iceracing.php. Or call 1-877-667-9505.

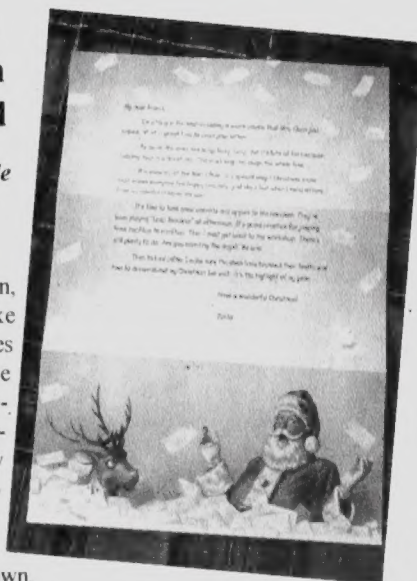
Santa Writes Back To Each & Every Child

*Pictured right is Sample
of letter from Santa*

... from pg. 4

delivered. Most children, or their parents, make sure their return addresses are clearly printed on the envelope. But sometimes the address is forgotten, or only partially there. And here's another benefit of living in a small town. Sometimes just a lake, or town, or road is mentioned. Sometimes a child will list his sibling's names, which provides another clue. Our Canada Post personnel work as hard as they can to narrow down the search. Route drivers take note of the child's name to see if, in a given area, other mail is going to the same name. Or they ask around to neighbours and friends if they know a little Jason or Jessica who maybe lives out by Loon Lake. The staff tries its utmost to make sure no child is disappointed.

So, as Christmas draws ever nearer, send Santa, and his intrepid helpers at Canada Post, a kind thought as they put a little magic in our children's eyes. And, as the saying goes, "if you stop believing, Santa doesn't come!"



LIGHT UP THE HOLIDAYS

May the warm glow of the holiday season touch your heart and spread to those around you. Wishing you peace, joy health, prosperity and much success in all you do.

Seasons come and go, but we hope to see you again and again. It has been a pleasure serving you.

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Dog Sled Derby In January

Ready, Set, Mush!! Yes, it's coming back to town. January 29-30th will see the return of the annual Haliburton Highlands Dogsled



Derby. This will be the 4th year for the internationally sanctioned derby hosted by Winterdance in the Highlands. This year the derby races will take place at The Delta Pinestone Resort and there will be a guaranteed minimum purse of \$12,000, which is one of the largest in Canada. The starting gate will be right in front of the pond right along Hwy. 121 and will offer great viewing for spectators. Races will run all

day Saturday and Sunday. Admission and parking are free for all to come watch these amazing dogsled races. It's definitely a fun event for the whole family. Be sure to dress warm, and leave the family pets at home. Volunteers are needed for the event for various duties, and time slots. If you would like to help out on this cool event please call Tanya or Hank at 457-5281, or to learn more about the races visit the website, www.winterdance.com/race. Thanks to the major sponsors; Minden Subaru, Haliburton Lumber, Royal Canin, Delta Pinestone Resort, Municipality of Dysart, Winterdance Dogsled Tours.



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Art Adventures Looking For Artists

Art Adventures is an 8-week after-school program of Family Services of Haliburton County. Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for children aged 9-12 to have fun doing art while promoting their social development and self-esteem. Art Adventures is currently looking for artists/artisans to facilitate the next session to be held at J.D. Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton starting in early January, 2005 on Thursdays, 3:45 - 5:00 pm. For more information contact Sharon Lynch at Family Services, 457-5345 or sharonl@familyserviceshaliburton.ca.

3 Wise Women?...

Submitted by Ed Lechman

Did you ever wonder what would have happened if there had been "3 Wise Women" instead of "3 Wise Men" (at the birth of CHRIST)

- 1)they would have asked directions
- 2)they would have arrived on time
- 3)they would have helped to deliver the baby
- 4)they would have cleaned the stable
- 5)they would have made a casserole
- 6)they would have brought practical gifts
- 7)there would probably be peace on earth

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COOL PIC OF THE MONTH

**It's a Bird,
It's a Plane
It's A
Christmas
Tree?**

Recently on her way to Toronto, Lisa Robertson of Haliburton spotted this. She explains, "I was driving along County Rd #1 heading towards Gelert. Off in the distance I

wondered what the heck it was I was coming up to. Once close enough, I couldn't believe my eyes! Here was 2 candles and a Xmas tree away up high on this boom pole! I had to turn around to get a picture, now that's a festive lawn ornament!!"



It's Snowarama Time!!

If you've got a snowmobile and want to help a great cause while having a great time, head out to the Annual Snowarama for Easter Seal Kids on Saturday, January 29th at the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve.

Participants can raise money through pledges from friends, neighbours, co-workers, etc. to help the kids. The day will consist of a 100-km snowmobile event on the groomed trails of the reserve. Registration is from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. – then the fun begins!

The annual event raises over \$500,000 province wide, with the local ride raising upwards of \$15,000. Participants raising \$75 or more in pledges will receive a free lunch, free entrance, and a free tank of gas compliments of Sid Stamp Fuels of Minden.

There are a lot of incentives to participate, starting with a safety keychain with key light whistle to sportsbags, CD players, DVD players, digital cameras and vacations, depending on the pledges raised.

The annual event is sponsored by the Haliburton Rotary Club which has been holding the event for over 20 years.

The Easter Seal Society helps children, youth and young adults with physical disabilities in many ways. Pledge forms are available at Emmerson Lumber, Haliburton Tim-br Mart, Curry Motors, Sid Stamp Fuels and other locations throughout your area. For more details call Jamie Cowan at 457-3576 or Easter Seals at 800-668-6252.

So get your pledge form today and get ready for an awesome day of sledding on January 29th.

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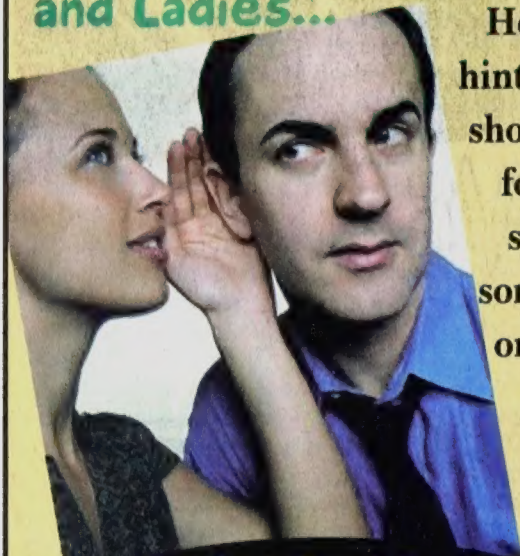
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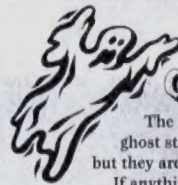
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

From Sandi, Colin, Pat, Cheryl, Marcy, Erin, and Lady too!

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GHOST STORIES

The following is a fun little column for those who like
ghost stories... Whether these are true or not we don't know,
but they are stories told by those who believe they saw real ghosts!!
If anything, they do make for interesting little stories... enjoy...

Ottawa - Chateau Laurier

The elegant hotel located
in the heart of Ottawa, built
on the prestigious land next
to Parliament Hill is like a
step back in time. The ho-
tel first commissioned by
Mr. Charles Melville Hays,
the president of the "Grand
Trunk Railway", in the year
1907, was to be the flag-



ship hotel for the railway. Built to resemble a castle in France,
the rich and social elite of the time would come to waltz in the
ballroom, lounge by the indoor pool and smoke cigars in the
reading room. The marble staircases, gold leaf painting, and
cathedral ceilings just



added to the majestic
appeal of the hotel. The
hotel would open in the
year 1912, but not with
all the finishing touches
its builder had wanted.

During the building of
the impressive edifice,
Mr. Hays put everything
he hoped for into his

hotel, often stopping by to watch the building in progress,
whistling as he visited. A few weeks before the grand opening
Mr. Hays decided to visit London, England for some furnish-
ings for the rooms. He then decided to return home on one of
the most historical of voyages. Mr. Hays bought a ticket to
return home on the ill fated RMS Titanic. On the fourteenth
day of April 1912 Mr. Hays and 1,500 plus people died when
the ship sank. Mr Hays never saw the opening of his splendid
hotel... or did he.

Some say that Mr. Charles Melville Hays was so attached to
his hotel that to this day he has not left it. Visitors have
complained of hearing soft whistling, and a man in dark cloak
on the fifth floor.

Staff of the Chateau Laurier simply figure that Mr. Charles
Melville Hays is just making sure that the hotel that he so
wanted to build is still being managed and maintained to his
standards.

You know you're getting old:
When your idea of a night
out is sitting on the patio.

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Sleepy After Turkey?

Some people think they feel sleepy after a roast turkey dinner. Turkey contains many of our essential dietary amino acids. One is called L-Tryptophan. One of the first amino acids to appear as a supplement in the early marketing wave of exotic nutrients, it was billed as a natural sleep aid. It is involved in the production of serotonin, a neurotransmitter. Serotonin may reduce certain pain reactions and have a tranquilizing effect. Starchy foods such as potatoes and stuffing are high in carbohydrates which contain L-Tryptophan.

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Reindeer Are Real!

It is man's most ancient herd animal, the first animals being raised around 15,000 years ago. Up until about 12,000 years ago, reindeer grazed over a vast area of Europe. Rock paintings by primitive peoples featuring them are wide-spread, as are discoveries of tools made from reindeer horn. There was even a period of European prehistory in a part of France called Dordogne that is sometimes called "the civilization of reindeer." The only surviving part of such a civilization might be found in Lapland, which is the northern part of Norway, Sweden and Finland. There are only a few thousand Lapps, but they own herds of many thousands of reindeer. From them the Lapps obtain meat, milk, hair for weaving, hides to make tents and clothing, and horn, from which they make households. They are also used to pull heavily laden sleds. It is all these multiple uses that have made reindeer so endearing to people in the North.

Caribou, the name by which the Americans are more familiar with reindeer, comes from an Indian word.

Wilberforce and Area Police Volunteer Association Ready to Serve the Community in Case of an Emergency

By the Wilberforce & Area Police Volunteer Association

The association has purchased a generator and has the Medical Center and O.P.P. Sub office properly wired for it so it can fully function in case of any emergency. We think this is one of the places that should be ready to function fully at any time. We like to thank all the people who support us during the years.

Members were called upon recently during an shooting incident to assist Police. Some members assisted the police while other members prepared sandwiches at the Curling Club for some 40 officers, and later on prepared a hot meal for all of them. The Assn would like to thank Wilberforce IGA for donating all the food.



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Christmas Facts:

According to Daniel Boorstin in his book "The Americans," Christmas was largely a non-event in America until the 1860s. 1867 was the first year that Macy's department store in New York City remained open until midnight on Christmas Eve. 1874 was the year of the first window displays with a Christmas theme at Macy's. It has snowballed from there.

According to the book "Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things," by Charles Panati: The church forbade the use of mistletoe in any form, mindful of its idolatrous associations. As a substitute, it suggested holly. The sharply pointed leaves were to symbolize the thorns in Christ's crown and the red berries drops of his blood. Holly became a nativity tradition. The Christian ban on mistletoe was in effect throughout the Middle Ages. Surprisingly, as late as the 20th century, there were churches in England that forbade the wearing of mistletoe sprigs and corsages during services.

For Scandinavians, the goddess of love (Frigga) is strongly associated with mistletoe. This link to romance may be where our tradition of kissing under mistletoe comes from.

Christmas cards started in London in 1843 and in America in 1846.

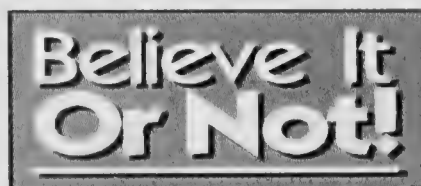
In Canada, Christmas traditions have come from many countries. France has given us its celebration of the Nativity with its old carols. Germany the Christmas tree and its many ornaments and England, greeting cards. Ireland has bequeathed us the ancient Gaelic custom of putting lights in windows. The United States has provided Santa Claus and Czechoslovakia and Japan have produced a flood of Christmas tree and interior home decorations of all kinds.

The song "(I'm Dreaming of a) White Christmas," written by Irving Berlin for the movie "Holiday Inn" (1942) and sung by Bing Crosby, is one of the best-selling songs of all time.

Winter was a time of celebration to pre-Christian Romans and they decorated fir trees in honor of this seasonal change.

For every real Christmas tree harvested, 2 to 3 seedlings are planted in its place. Each hectare provides the daily oxygen requirements of 45 people.

Due to the time zones, Santa has 31 hours to deliver gifts? This means that he would have to visit 832 homes each second!



The use of a Christmas wreath as a decoration on your front door, mantel or bay window symbolizes a sign of welcome and long life to all who enter.

Three years after Thomas Edison invented the electric light bulb in 1879, Edward H. Johnson, who worked for Edison's company, had Christmas tree bulbs especially made for him. He proudly displayed his electric tree lights at his home on Fifth Avenue, New York City. They caused a sensation although some years were to pass before mass-manufactured Christmas tree lights were widely available.

In America in 1822, the postmaster of Washington, DC, complained that he had to add 16 mailmen at Christmas to deal with cards alone. He wanted the number of cards a person could send limited by law. "I don't know what we'll do if this keeps on," he wrote.

In Armenia, the traditional Christmas Eve meal consists of fried fish, lettuce, and spinach. The meal is traditionally eaten after the Christmas Eve service, in commemoration of the supper eaten by Mary on the evening before Christ's birth.

Designer Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel introduced her first perfume in 1921. She gave it the name "Chanel No. 5." According to Chanel, she jumped straight to number five because it was her lucky number. To add luck to the fragrance, she introduced it on the fifth day of May, the fifth month. Chanel No. 5 became the world's best selling perfume.

HORSE AROUND A LITTLE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.
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THE CHRISTMAS TREE CYCLE

Cutting this year's Christmas tree, a Spruce tree is the only one for me. I started thinking if this tree was sixty-five feet high instead of six point five feet it would no longer be a Christmas tree, but a log tree dropping seeds from it's cones. That bunch of seedlings will grow up to be cut for Christmas trees when they are six point five or grow into sixty-five feet high log trees that will be cut by a tree feller, taken to the landing with a log skidder, cut up into log lengths, trucked to a saw mill, scaled and piled up waiting to be cut into lumber on the carriage of the sawmill. Now from there it will probably be kiln dried and planed four sides into framing lumber that you or a contractor may buy to frame a house. This house will eventually be

occupied by a family who will of course decorate and furnish this house and finally they will go out together and cut or buy a six point five foot spruce tree and bring it home to their new house, decorate it and that little tree will turn their new house into a home.

Luckily for us we have the beautiful natural resource we call the forest right here in our back yard and luckily for the forest there are a lot of caring landowners and forestry professionals working in the forests of Haliburton County doing a good job of looking after the forests we have. When you get that little tree to your house and it's brightening up your home give a little thought to it's relatives still standing majestically in the forest.

I'm happy to report that my company Kennedy Forest Products, effective immediately will cease all operations in the bush and at the sawmill. All assets and liabilities of Kennedy Forest Products are now owned by K.A. Forest Products Inc.

This is not the end of this article, nor the end of me working in the forest products industry. I am staying on as Manager and all employees (6) will be staying on with K.A. Forest Products Inc.

K.A. Forest Products Inc. is still buying standing timber, doing select cuts on private land and the sawmill is still in full operation. Anyone wanting to contact us can do so by calling (705) 754-4579, email us at fkennedy@sympatico.ca or by mail Box 128 West Guilford, Ont. K0M 2S0.

To all our readers have a very safe and Merry Christmas a Happy New Year and we'll see you in 2005.

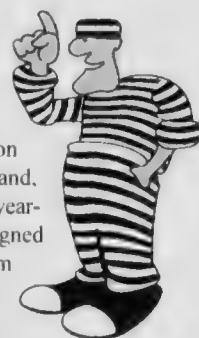
Greg Kennedy
Manager - K.A. Forest Products Inc.



Merry Christmas!
from
Wayne & Chester
at
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Dumb Criminals

HOW TO: Nancy Winniewicz of Chartiers Township, Penn., found a tape in a drawer and played it to see what it was. She was so shocked that she turned it over to police. "It sent chills down my spine," said Police Chief James Horvath: on the tape, he says, was Winniewicz's husband, urging his 10-year-old stepson to kill his 4-year-old brother. Horvath said the tape was designed to be played while the boy slept, giving him subliminal instructions to commit murder. Donald Winniewicz, 36, was arrested and charged with criminal solicitation to commit homicide.



Calling All Young Writers Out There

All Young Writers in the county are encouraged to submit their creative entries in the Dorset Snowball Young Writers' and Teens' Short Story and Poetry Contest.

There are four categories and cash prizes are being awarded in each category. They are: elementary school short story (up to 500 words); secondary school short story (up to 1,200 words), elementary school poetry (up to 50 lines) and secondary school poetry (up to 50 lines). Each category offers a \$25 cash prize, generously donated by local businesses.

Submissions are to be received no later than January 24, 2005. Winning entries will be announced at the Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival in the Dorset Branch of the Haliburton County Public Library with winning writers reading their works from 10 to 11 a.m. on February 19, followed by an "open-mic".

Submissions are to be sent to: The Dorset Branch of the Haliburton Public Library, Box 70, Dorset, Ont. P0A 1E0, or the Dorset Recreation Centre at drc@vianet.on.ca

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Special Glow to
The Season*



Wishing you the peace of the season. May the spirit of Christmas stay with you throughout the year.



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Academic Upgrading Offers Second Chance

Travis Trotter has his eyes firmly set on the future. "My goal is to gain entrance to Fleming College in Lindsay to become a conservation officer and a forester", he says with quiet determination.

Wendy Smith has an 11-year-old daughter who needs help with math. Wendy says "I just have to be able to help her: the teachers do everything they can, but she still needs me. And math was never my strong suit!"

Beth Crarey is nearing retirement age and wants to make sure she can control as much of her life as possible, and that means understanding how to budget her resources. Beth puts it simply: "I just want to better myself and make sure I can run my own life."

Rob Packard wants to get into college, maybe become a funeral director. But Rob also needs a "huge upgrade" in his academic skills if he's going to have any chance of achieving his goals. He left high school almost 10 years ago without graduating; but Rob wants to make sure that those past difficulties won't define the rest of his life.

These are just four of many adult students who you could find most



ordinator and part-time teacher Jayne Kennedy, Katherine provides in-depth, one-on-one tuition to a remarkably wide variety of students.



"It's almost feels like a one-room school house", says Katherine. "Many of our students had negative high school experiences, for many reasons, and their academic levels are all different and their goals are different. So we teach individually, adjusting to each person's pace and background. And sometimes one student will help another: it's a very non-threatening, non-competitive atmosphere in which to learn."

Katherine also points out that since most of the students have either children to look after, or part-time jobs to support them, class times and schedules are very flexible. Travis Trotter, for example, manages to fit in three to four hours a day at the Victoria St. School, up to four days a week. Wendy can manage only three days at best, at different times.

To reach their goals Travis and Rob need to complete their ACE, or Academic and Career Entrance Certificate, which certifies Grade 12 Equivalency. This certificate is also required for many apprenticeship programs as well such as Heavy Equipment Operator, Personal Support Worker, and Early Childhood workers. The program also provides help for students with special needs, such as poor reading or

Academic Upgrade cont'd... pg. 15...

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Christmas Teddy Bear Colouring Contest:

Our resident expert on all things from the heart (and colouring contests) has decided that all the coloring pages submitted were just too creative and well done. It was just really too hard to make a choice and besides, it is Christmas!! So ... Ursa Major, the "great bear" that he or she is, decided they all get honourable mentions (which means they were definitely so super that you could not pick the best. Ursa Major told Carol and Bob of Teddy Time to find and give one of his little friends to each person who submitted their drawings of the Christmas teddy bear to Teddy Time.

We thank everyone for their enthusiastic and cheerful participating in the contest. You have been wonderful to talk to and get to know.

And the winners are .. Matthew O'Reilly, Shane O'Reilly, Carley Shaw, Cassie Varty, Ian Paulnic, Morgan Johnston, Jacob Peterson, Cassidy Glecoff, Megan McCrea, Emma Smith, Drew VanLieshout, Whitney MacDuff, Braden Askew, Victoria Tripp, Devin Hancock, Cassie Clare Fraser, Sam Miller, Stephen Fraser, Gordon Fraser, Craig Mulholland, Tara Graham, Holly Short and Rebecca Short.

Your wonderful colourings are now on display at Teddy Time.

Joanne & Brett of The Communicator, Carol & Bob and all our friends thank all of you (this particularly includes the Mums and Grandmothers) for taking the time during this very busy season to bring in all those wonderful pictures for us and ... taking the time to visit with us.

Have a wonderful Holliday Season.

Academic Upgrade Cont'd....

... from pg. 14

learning skills, physical or vision disabilities. And there's no set start date: students can start at any time throughout the year, and for most tuition fees are paid for. In some cases, transportation and child-care



subsidies are available.

This program has proved to be a truly life-changing experience for literally hundreds of adult students over the years. If you think you could benefit, just call 457-4562 for further information and consultation.



Pictured are some of the participants of the Academic Upgrade Program (opposite page - Rob Packard is pictured with Katherine

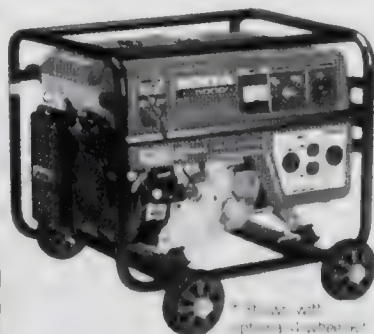
Egleston; middle pic is Wendy Smith; bottom is Travis Trotter. (This page: above is Beth Crarey. Pictured studying above is Rob Packard. These students are benefiting from the Academic Upgrading Program.

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Christmas Greetings from Around The World

Surprise Your Guests By Greeting Them In Another Language!!

English - Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Cree: Mitho Makosi Kesikansi

Danish: Glædelig Jul og godt nytår

Dutch: Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!

Egyptian - Colo sana wintom tiebeen

Finnish - Hyvää Joulua or Hauskaa

Joulua - Önellista uutta vuotta

Fijian - Me Nomuni na marau ni siga ni sucu dei na yabaki vou

French - Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année!

German - Froehliche Weihnachten und ein glückliches Neues Jahr!

Greek - Kala Christougenna

Ki'eftihismenos O Kenourios Chronos

Greenlandic - Juullimi Ukiortaassamilu Pilluarit

Hawaiian - Mele Kalikimaka & Hauoli Makahiki Hou

Hebrew - Mo'adim Lesimkha. Shanah

Hindi Shubh Naya Baras

Hungarian - Kellemes karácsonyi ünnepeket és Boldog újévet!

Icelandic - Gleðileg Jól og Farsaelt Komandi ár!

Iraqi - Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah

Irish - Nollaig Shona Dhuit

Iroquois - Ojenyunyat Sungwiayadeson homungradon nagwutut & Ojenyunyat osrasay

Italian - Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

Japanese - Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto

Latin - Pax hominibus bonae voluntatis

Lebanese - Milad Saeed wa Sanaa Mubarakah

Mandarin - Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan

Maltese - Nixtieqlek Milied Tajjeb u Sena Tajba

Mongolian - Zul saryn bolon shine ony mend devshuulye

Norwegian/Nynorsk - Eg ynskjer hermed Dykk alle ein God Jul og Godt Nyttår

Norwegian/Bokmål - God Jul og Godt Nyttår

Ojibwe (Chippewa) - Niibaa' anami'egizhigad & Aabita Biboon

Polish - Wesolych Swiat i Szczesliwego Nowego Roku.

Portuguese - Boas Festas e um feliz Ano Novo

Romanian - Craciun fericit si un An Nou fericit!

Russian - Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva i s Novim Godom

Scots Gaelic - Nollaig chridheil agus Bliadhna mhath ur!

Serbian - Sretan Bozic. Vesela Nova Godine

Sicilian - Bon Natali e Prosperu Annu Novu !

Somali - ciid wanaagsan iyo sanad cusub oo fiican.

Slovakian - Vesele Vianoce a stastny novy rok

Spanish - Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo

Swahili - *Krismas Njema Na Heri Za Mwaka Mpya°

**'Kung His
Hsin Nien
bing Chu
Shen Tan'
Mandarin for
Merry Christmas
& Happy New
Year**

Swedish - God Jul och Gott Nytt År

Tamil - Nathar Puthu Varuda Valthukkal

Thai - Suksan Wan Christmas lae Sawadee Pee Mai

Turkish - Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun

Ukrainian - Veseloho Vam Rizdva i Shchastlyvoho Novoho Roku!

Vietnamese - Chuc Mung Giang Sinh - Chuc Mung Tan Nien

Welsh - Nadolig LLawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Yiddish - Gute Vaynakhtn un a Gut Nay Yor

Zulu - Sinifesela Ukhisimusi Omuhle Nonyaka Omusha Onempumelelo

**You know you're getting old:
When happy hour is a nap.**

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The Origin of Giving Presents At Christmas

In Canada, the custom of giving Christmas presents is relatively recent. From the beginning of New France to the end of the XIXth century, gifts were exchanged at New Year's and not at Christmas. Newspaper advertising gradually led people to give some of their presents at Christmas and to keep others for New Year's. As with gifts, Christmas stockings soon replaced shoes placed by the chimney.

In the last quarter of the XIXth century, Christmas began to be the time to give children presents, at least in middle-class families. Department stores sold a great variety of children's toys and suggested a wide selection of gifts for adults to give one another. With the growing popularity of Santa Claus, and a little later in the 1930's of "Père Noël" (Father Christmas), presents came to be exchanged only at Christmas.

Christmas Toys:

As long ago as 1860, German-made toys were widely advertised by department stores, a dominance that lasted up until Japanese production overtook the market in the XXth century.

At that time, toys for boys and for girls were clearly differentiated. For boys, there were miniature fire trucks and police cars, small delivery vans and cars, trains and trams, lead soldiers, sets of wooden blocks, mechanical toys of all kinds, carpenter's tool boxes and soldiers and firemen's uniforms.

As for girls, they mainly received toys linked to their future roles

as mothers and housewives. They were given dolls, miniature stoves complete with pots and pans, sets of dishes, irons, washing machines and other doll-size furniture, like upright pianos.

Up until the end of the Second World War, these beautiful toys remained the preserve of the upper middle classes. Working class children could expect much more modest gifts. In their Christmas stockings, children would find oranges, candies, gingerbread men or dolls (called "nolais" in Acadia) and Christmas biscuits. The lucky ones might find a small home-made toy and, more rarely, a beautiful store-bought toy purchased by their parents at great expense.



Why is Christmas such a big deal?

There are two reasons why Christmas is such a big deal:

According to the 1994 "Britannica Book of the Year," there are 1.8 billion Christians in a total world population of 5.5 billion, making it the largest religion worldwide. In America, 241 million out of a total population of 281 million people are Christians — that's 85 percent. Because Christians follow Jesus, the birth of Jesus is important to them.

In America, the weeks leading up to Christmas are the biggest shopping weeks of the year. Many retailers make up to 70 percent of their annual revenue in the month preceding Christmas. Therefore, retailers hype the event beyond belief.



**Wishing Everyone a
Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!**



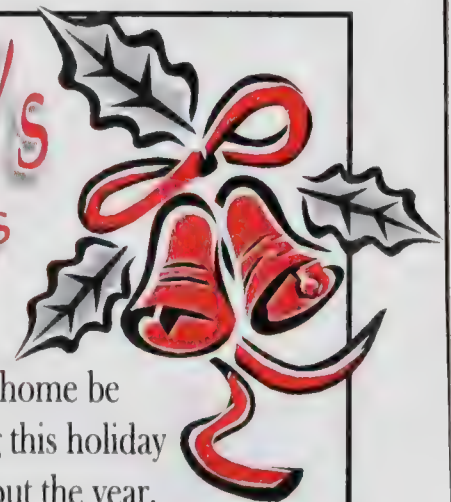
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Greetings**



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season and throughout the year.

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Have You Ever Wondered?...



Why are there oversized socks hanging on your mantel?

According to a very old tradition, the original Saint Nicholas (see the section on Santa) left his very first gifts of gold coins in the stockings of three poor girls who needed the money for their wedding dowries. The girls had hung their stockings by the fire to dry.

Up until lately, it was traditional to receive small items like fruit, nuts and candy in your stocking, but these have been replaced in the last half-century by more expensive gifts in many homes.



Toys For Those Who are Nice... Coal for The Naughty?

In Italy the Christmas holidays end on 6th January, the Epiphany, a celebration in remembrance of the "Magi's"; or the Three King's visit to the Baby Jesus. According to legend the three men during their journey stopped and asked an old woman for food and shelter. She refused and they continued on their way. Within a few hours the woman

had a change of heart but the Magi were long gone. The "Befana", (Epiphany) depicted as a witch astride a broom, still searches the world for the Baby Jesus.

On the Eve of the Epiphany Italian children hang a stocking by the fireplace: the old woman puts sweets and chocolates into the stockings of children who have been good and black coal into the stockings of children who have been naughty!!

In Rome, in Piazza Navona, there is a typical toy and sweet market; here you can meet the "Befana" in person who will give you some sweets!

M

o, Ho, Ho

Our best wishes for happy holidays!
Hope your Christmas is merry and bright and your new year brings you everything you've dreamed of!

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Craving Hockey?... Don't Miss This Event!!

The arena in Haliburton is always a bustle of activity, and that won't change on January 28-30th as approximately 18 teams comprised mostly of our area builders, will be competing in their 7th annual Home Builders Charity Hockey Tournament in Haliburton.

Last year 16 teams participated and of those 16 teams, more than half was comprised of members from our local Home Builders association.

This year there are two divisions, an open division for any non-members to participate, and the Home Builders division, closed to members only. The cost per team is \$500, and is non-contact hockey.

Proceeds from this worthwhile cause goes to the Haliburton County Food Bank. Spectators are encouraged to come out and watch the hockey excitement. There will be a charity game on Saturday night, with participants from all Home Builders Teams. Deadline for team entry is January 14th. For further details contact Dennis McKee at 457-2156, or 457-1413.

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The Real Santa - And How He Came To Be Today

Santa has not always appeared the way we think of him today.



The original St. Nick

The first well-known gift-giver was a true person—St. Nicholas. He lived in Myra (today we know it as Turkey) in about 300 A.D. Born an only child of a wealthy family, he was orphaned at an early age when both parents died of the plague. He grew up in a monastery and at the age of 17 became one of the youngest priests ever. Many stories are told of his generosity as he gave his wealth away in the form of gifts to those in need, especially children. Perhaps the

most famous story of all tells how he helped three unfortunate young sisters who all had suitors but had no dowries because their father, a poor nobleman, could not raise the money. So they could not marry.

Now the bishop Nicholas was a shy man and did not like to give money directly, so he thought of a way to give it anonymously. When the first daughter was ready to marry, the good bishop tossed a bag of gold into the house at night. Later, when the second daughter prepared to marry, she too received a mysterious bag of gold. When the third daughter prepared to marry, the poor nobleman was determined to find out who had been so generous. So he kept watch and saw the bishop drop another bag of gold into the house. It has been said that Saint Nicholas climbed on the roof and dropped the third bag of gold down the chimney where it landed in a stocking hung to dry, giving us a reason to hang up Christmas stockings today. When the father saw what had happened, Nicholas begged him to keep the secret, but, of course, the news got out. From then on, whenever anyone received an unexpected gift, they thanked Nicholas.

Some years later Nicholas became a bishop—hence the bishop's hat or miter, long flowing gown, white beard and red cape. After his death he was elevated to sainthood. Eventually the Catholic Church started celebrating Christmas and St. Nicholas was incorporated into the season.

When the Reformation took place, the new Protestants no longer desired St. Nicholas as their gift-giver as he was too closely tied to the

Catholic Church. Therefore, each country or region developed their own gift-giver. In France he was known as Pere Noel. In England he was Father Christmas (always depicted with sprigs of holly, ivy or mistletoe). Germany knew him as Weihnachtsmann (Christmas man). When the communists took over in Russia and outlawed Christianity, the Russians began to call him Grandfather Frost, who wore blue instead of the traditional red. To the Dutch, he was Sinterklaas (which eventually was mispronounced in America and became Santa Claus). These Santas were arrayed in every color of the rainbow—sometimes even in black. But they all had long white beards and carried gifts for the children.



Nast's St. Nick

The Santa we know today had his beginnings in 1823 with Clement C. Moore's "A Visit from St. Nicholas" in which he described St. Nicholas as "chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf".

In 1822 Saint Nicholas' American transformation was given a more definitive description by a professor named Doctor Clement Clarke Moore. Moore, the father of several children, presented his family with a Christmas first: the famous poem, A Visit From Saint Nicholas, first published in 1823. (This poem today is The Night Before Christmas). The poem quickly became popular around the United States. Unlike the European Saint Nicholas who was feared by naughty children, Clement Moore inadvertently Americanized the Old World Saint

Santa cont'd... pg 21...

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Sat's only till April



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Located at Industrial Rd. and Cnty Rd 21, Haliburton

Coca Cola Promotes Santa

... from pg. 20

Nicholas, turning him into "jolly Saint Nick, a plump, happy-go-lucky elf with a sleigh full of toys and eight flying reindeer.

Through the years, many publishers have offered Moore's poem as an illustrated book for children. The first one was published in 1848 by Henry M. Onderdonk, a New York printer and bookseller, and a friend of Clement Moore. C. Boyd did eight wood engravings depicting sleeping children, stockings hanging, the Christmas elf driving his miniature team through streets and over rooftops of a quaint old-fashioned Dutch New York, and other familiar scenes to every illustrated edition since. These were put together in an eight-page pamphlet prepared as "a present for good little boys and girls." Only two known copies of that paperback publication have survived.



In 1860 Thomas Nast immortalized Santa Claus with an illustration for Harper's Weekly. The Gregory Company of New York contacted him with an offer to do the illustrations for a book of Christmas poems, including Clement Moore's. Acquiring a copy, Nast read it repeatedly,

making mental sketches of the character. He wanted a warm, jolly old elf. The first Santa Claus appeared as a small part of a large illustration titled "A Christmas Furlough" in the December 26, 1863 issue and each Christmas following, Nast set aside his regular news and political coverage to a Santa Claus drawing. He provided twenty-three years of Santa Claus until the paper changed from a leading newsweekly into a magazine for late nineteenth-century homemakers.

Finally, from 1931 to 1964, Haddon Sundblom created a new Santa each Christmas for Coca-Cola advertisements that appeared world-wide on the back covers of Post and National Geographic magazines. This is the Santa we know and love today with a red suit trimmed with white fur, leather boots and belt, long white beard and a pack of toys slung onto his back.



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Worldly News

of hundred dollars down for it," he said. He says another parent objected, telling him "her pockets were deeper than mine." A bidding war erupted over the picture, which he described as having "a couple of children on it, a couple of animals and a flower, at least I think that's what they were." But Ilhan dropped out when the price "got seriously out of hand" — at A\$75,000 (US\$54,200). A spokesman for Southebys auction house noted that "for that money you could buy works by every major artist in this country, from colonial times through to contemporary." (Hey...I could draw some stick men for the discounted price of \$30,000!! I'll even draw them in colour for \$35,000!!)

Bidding War Gone Crazy...

The kindergarten class at St. Catherine's school in Melbourne, Vic., Australia, painted a picture as part of a fundraiser for the school. John Ilhan's daughter, who had helped paint the picture, wanted it, so Ilhan, a millionaire, "put a couple

You know you're getting old: When you're on vacation and your energy runs out before your money does.



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Lange On The Law



by **Donald J. Lange**
Barrister & Solicitor

The Costs of a Lawsuit

Lawsuits in the Superior Court of Justice are expensive for both the plaintiff and the defendant. There are two kinds of costs involved: the legal fees arising from services provided by a lawyer and the out of pocket expenses of a lawsuit, such as government charges in the court system, the preparation of document briefs, and the payment of expert witnesses. The out of pocket expenses in a lawsuit are often substantial and should be recognized as such by the litigants and their lawyers. If the plaintiff wins, the plaintiff is entitled to have a portion of his or her legal costs paid by the defendant. If the plaintiff loses because the lawsuit is dismissed, the defendant is entitled to a similar award of costs.

An award of costs is determined by a "cost grid" scheme based on two sliding scales: a partial indemnity scale and a substantial indemnity scale. An example is the hourly rate of a lawyer in a lawsuit who has been in practice between 10 and 20 years. The costs grid permits the court to fix the hourly rate on a sliding scale up to \$300 per hour under the partial indemnity scale, and up to \$400 under the substantial indemnity scale.

The court has discretion in fixing both the hourly rate of a lawyer and the out of pocket expenses in a lawsuit. Factors which the court may take into account include the amount claimed and the amount recovered in the lawsuit, the complexity of the lawsuit, and the conduct of a party who tended to shorten or lengthen the lawsuit. For example, if the trial is unduly long due to the fault of the winning litigant, the court may substantially reduce the counsel fee of the litigant's lawyer for each day of trial to express the court's disapproval.

Always keep in mind that the winner of a lawsuit, whether plaintiff or defendant, never recovers one hundred percent of the legal fees and disbursements paid out. If the court grants costs on a partial indemnity scale, the winning litigant will recover only part of the costs incurred in the lawsuit. If the court grants costs on a substantial indemnity scale, the winning litigant will recover most, but not all, of the costs incurred in the lawsuit.

In the next column, I will be talking about mediation.

**You know you're getting old: When
all you wanted for your birthday is to
not be reminded of your age.**

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The Cost Of The Twelve Days of Christmas

Those gifts really add up....

In 1984, after all the receipts were added up, the cost of "*The Twelve Days of Christmas*" would have set you back \$12,623— the goods alone accounting for 62 percent of your total bill. Today, the numbers tell a different story. The total cost has climbed to \$17,297, a 1.6 percent annualized increase over 20 years, but services now account for 74 percent of the index, indicating a steady rise in the cost of skilled labor while the price of two turtle doves and three French hens may be a little easier on your wallet.

Every year since 1984, PNC Advisors has provided a tongue-in-cheek economic analysis, based on the cost of goods and services purchased by the True Love in the holiday classic, "*The Twelve Days of Christmas*."

The Christmas Price Index has consistently reflected changes in the economy and continues to do so in the 20th anniversary version.

As part of its annual tradition, PNC Advisors also tabulates the "true cost of Christmas," which is the total cost of all of the items in the famous carol, including the repetitions. The price tag for the 364 items this holiday season is \$66,334 up from \$65,264 in 2003. The 1.6 percent increase pales in comparison to last year's 19 percent increase, which may be due to lower consumer confidence this season according to Kleintop.

As in the past, most items are more expensive to buy over the Internet, primarily due to the cost of shipping, which continues to go up because of rising fuel costs.

PNC Advisors is the wealth management unit of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., (NYSE: PNC), one of the nation's largest diversified financial services companies, operating businesses engaged in regional community banking, wholesale banking, wealth management, asset management and global fund processing services.



Interesting Stastics

Ten books on a shelf can be arranged in 3,628,800 different ways.

Your birthday is not a special day after all—you share it with no fewer than nine million others.

The odds of someone winning a lottery twice in four months is about one in 17 trillion. But Evelyn Marie Adams won the New Jersey lottery in this period during 1985-86.

The Alaskan island of Little Diomedé is only 2 ½ miles away from the Russian coast.



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It's The Law!

Connecticut:

In Hartford, it is illegal to educate a dog.

It is illegal to dispose of used razor blades.

In New Britain, the speed limit for fire trucks is 25 m.p.h., even when going to a fire.

Delaware:

Getting married on a dare is grounds for an annulment.

It is illegal to fly over any body of water, unless one is carrying sufficient supplies of food and drink.

Rudolf The Red Nose Reindeer... How He Came To Be

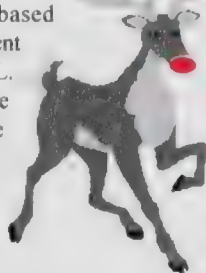


To most of us, the character of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer — immortalized in song and a popular TV special — has always been an essential part of our Christmas folklore. But Rudolph is a decidedly twentieth-century invention whose creation can be traced to a specific time and person. The character 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer' was created for the Montgomery Ward group of department stores.

Rudolph came to life in 1939 when the Chicago-based Montgomery Ward company (operators of a chain of department stores) asked one of their copywriters, 34-year-old Robert L. May, to come up with a Christmas story they could give away to shoppers as a promotional gimmick. (The Montgomery Ward stores had been buying and giving away coloring books for Christmas every year, and May's department head saw creating a giveaway booklet of their own as a way to save money.) May, who had a penchant for writing children's stories and limericks, was tapped to create the booklet.

May, drawing in part on the tale of The Ugly Duckling and his own background (he was a often taunted as a child for being shy, small, and slight), settled on the idea of an underdog ostracized by

the reindeer community because of his physical abnormality: a glowing red nose. Looking for an alliterative name, May considered and rejected Rollo (too cheerful and carefree a name for the story of a misfit) and Reginald (too British) before deciding on Rudolph. He then proceeded to write Rudolph's story in verse, as a series of rhyming couplets, testing it out on his 4-year-old daughter Barbara as he went along. Although Barbara was thrilled with Rudolph's story, May's boss was worried that a story featuring a red nose — an image associated with drinking and drunkards — was unsuitable for a Christmas tale. May responded by taking Denver Gillen, a friend from Montgomery Ward's art department, to the Lincoln Park Zoo to sketch some deer. Gillen's illustrations of a red-nosed reindeer overcame the hesitancy of May's bosses, and the Rudolph story was approved. Montgomery Ward distributed 2.4 million copies of the Rudolph booklet in 1939, and although wartime paper shortages curtailed printing for the next several years, a total of 6 million copies had been given by the end of 1946.



The post-war demand for licensing the Rudolph character was tremendous, but since May had created the story as an employee of Montgomery Ward, they held the copyright and he received no royalties. Deeply in debt from the medical bills resulting from his wife's terminal illness (she died about the time May created Rudolph), May persuaded Montgomery Ward's corporate president, Sewell Avery, to turn the copyright over to him in January 1947. With the rights to his creation in hand, May's financial security was assured. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was printed commercially in 1947 and shown in theaters as a nine-minute cartoon the following year.

The Rudolph phenomenon really took off, however, when May's brother-in-law, songwriter Johnny Marks, developed the lyrics and melody for a Rudolph song. Marks' musical version of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" (turned down by many who didn't want to meddle with the established Santa legend) was recorded by Gene Autry in 1949, sold two million copies that year, and went on to become one of the best-selling songs of all time (second only to "White Christmas"). A TV special about Rudolph narrated by Burl Ives was produced in 1964 and remains a popular perennial holiday favorite.

May quit his copywriting job in 1951 and spent seven years managing his creation before returning to Montgomery Ward, where he worked until his retirement in 1971. May died in 1976, comfortable in the life his reindeer creation had provided for him.

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Help Make Wishes Come True - Become a Tutor

If you couldn't read or read well enough...then you might never know about the Haliburton Highlands Learning Program. Nor would you know what is offered to adults wishing that they could read and write with confidence. Many people hold these wishes – learn for the first time how to read; improve their reading; be able to write for daily living; increase math skills; develop stronger oral communication skills.

Approximately 90% of the people who come to the H.H.L.P. are referred to our county literacy service because someone has suggested that there was a place to get help. The other 10% come because a life situation pushes them to find help.

What that 90% means is that folks who read this can become the important link to help someone find new solutions.

Since it was founded in 1987, the Learning Program has helped hundreds of individuals improve their literacy skills. They do this by matching the student with a trained, volunteer tutor. They meet where it will work best. It could be student's home, at a library, church, municipal building or at the HHLP center which is based in the village of Haliburton.

Through a beginning interview with the Coordinator, the learning goals and needs become clear. At the same time the personality and interests become useful tools to make a good match with a volunteer who will work well with the student.

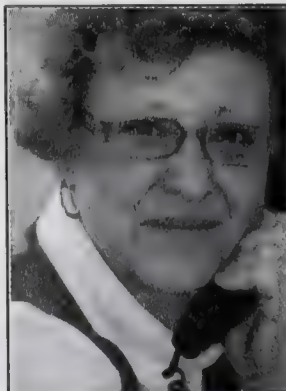
Travel and day care allowances are arranged if needed. Adults have busy lives and responsibilities so we discuss family obligations, work schedules or transportation difficulties.

Understanding the starting point, an assessment summary and training plan are developed. Once tutor is arranged the new student meets with him or her for their first visit. They will get to know each other, review the training plan and begin the learning journey. As

skills increase the training plan will be adjusted so that learning is always relating to what the person needs for daily living or work needs.

In addition they have special interest small groups, and computer workshops where learning is fun when shared with others. Often literacy is imbedded in practical community based projects and students learn by doing in a hands-on and helpful way. For example seven students helped us run our annual fundraising. Students typed the Bowlathon pledge sheets, numbered and distributed them, kept distribution records, collected and counted pledge sheets and money, completed and made bank deposits, personally contacted businesses throughout the county for pledges and prizes, organized the bowling alleys, set up a roster of bowlers, and celebrated over \$6000 for a job well done. This is only one of many examples of how learning is practical and full of tangible accomplishment.

At the Haliburton Highlands Learning Program they currently have twenty-five students participating. Some are new Canadians working to improve their speaking, reading and writing. Others missed gaining their foundation learning because they couldn't keep up with the expected pace. Some have learning disabilities and need to learn strategies to cope with the difficulties this poses. Still others are



Pictured left is Jane Selbie. Below is Kevin Flett who is one of many locals who benefits from the Learning Program. You can help by becoming a tutor!!

learning delayed and want to increase their ability to express themselves effectively because they will always function in an oral world.

No matter what the learning issue, if someone wishes to improve their skills, it begins with a phone call. Call 457-3430. We insure that information is confidential and it is free.

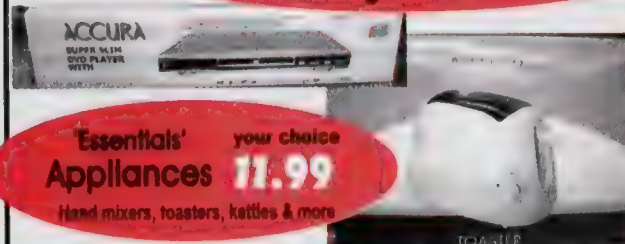
Literacy cont'd... pg. 29...



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Do Your Sheets Pop Off? They Won't With These...

Local Woman Invents "Neat Sheet"

If you are one of the many people who daily find yourself having to put your sheets back on your mattress, you are sure to appreciate the new invention from Minden resident Rosalia Schymik. One morning while making her bed, Rosalia broke her fingernail and decided there had to be a way to keep her bed sheets from coming off all the time. She was frustrated by the daily task of re-making her bed. And so she set off to find the "better way." Now over 3 years later her patent pending 'Neat Sheet' is available for sale. The product she created is brilliant really. It simply attaches to the bottom of the mattress sheets and goes underneath, via two cords that hold the sheets in place making it impossible to come off, no matter how restless of a sleep you or your partner have. It is available in all bed sizes from twin to king. The 'Neat Sheet' is made very strong so that it won't break. "I put a lifetime guarantee on them. They are almost unbreakable." Says Rosalia.

The product seems like a simple concept, but a lot of what goes into it requires sewing skills and a sewing machine. None of which

Rosalia had ever worked with. "I had to learn to sew and buy a sewing machine. I've never sewn before."

Rosalia and her husband Reinhold began to research the market to see if there was anything they could buy that would stop their sheet dilemma. They did find a product that was somewhat like her invention, however they found that it broke easily and was difficult to use. They decided to take the idea and improve upon it. "It was difficult and a lot of work," explains Reinhold. "We had to have a die maker create the mould which took a very long time. Then we had to have the plastic pieces manufactured."



Rosalia & Reinhold hold their "Neat" Invention

Rosalia assembles the 'Neat Sheets' in

her basement by hand from the sewing straight through to the packaging and labeling. "It's a lot of work, but I believe it will end a lot of frustration for a lot of people. One friend of mine bought one to put on a day bed that her dog sleeps on all the time. She had to make the bed every day after the dog made a mess of the sheets. Now she doesn't have to make the bed everyday. She's very happy." Says Rosalia. She has just released the finished product and has already sold over 30 sets of 'Neat Sheet'.

Other applications you could use the 'Neat Sheet' for include picnic table covers or even tablecloths. It would keep the tablecloths from shifting or moving around. "If someone is confined to a bed, it would be good too. It will prevent having to move the person to make the bed." Says Rosalia. Just think of the frustration that you would prevent from having one of these neat little inventions. I know personally how happy we are with ours, as it saves that time and pain in the butt of making the bed daily.

So how much do you have to pay for these 'Neat Sheet' things? Rosalia charges a mere \$8.50 for each package which will save the bed owner hours of frustration. It's worth the money, trust me! Currently, the product is only available directly from Rosalia but she is currently working on getting retail outlets to carry them.

Neet Sheet cont'd... pg 27...

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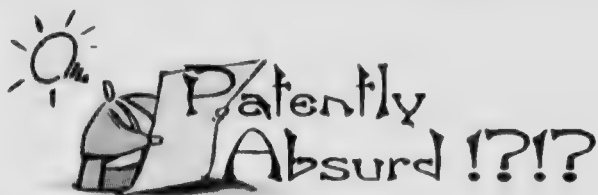
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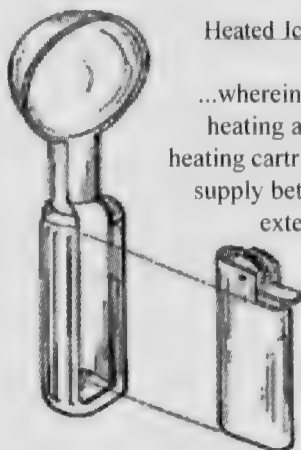
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- James Agate, 1944.

Neat Sheet Cont'd.... ... from pg. 26



Rosalia shows how her invention works. Below, she is busy at the sewing machine creating more

Dealer inquiries are welcome at this time. Everyone will surely want one of these Neat Sheet holders and at \$8.50 each (taxes in) they will make a great gift and will definitely save

you over \$8.50 worth of time. (Time is Money right?) To get yours call Rosalia or Reinhold today at 286-6254. They are right in the village of Minden and have one ready for you no matter what size your mattress. So next time you're ready for bed and just want to crash, don't let your messed up bed get in your way- be prepared with your own 'Neat Sheet'.



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Silent Night... Holy Night in Different Languages

Sainte Nuit (FRENCH)

Ô nuit de paix, Sainte nuit
Dans le ciel l'astre luit
Dans les champs tout repose en
paix
Mais soudain dans l'air pur et
frais
Le brillant coeur des anges
Aux bergers apparaît

Stille Nacht (GERMAN)

Stille Nacht! Heil'ge Nacht!
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hoch heilige
Paar.
Holder Knab' im lockigten
Haar,
|: Schlafe in himmlischer Ruh! :|

Astro del ciel (ITALIAN)

Astro del ciel, Pargol divin,
mite Agnello Redentor!
Tu che i Vati da lungi sognar,
Tu che angeliche voci nunziar,
luce dona alle genti
pace infondi nei cuor!
luce dona alle genti,
pace infondi nei cuor!

Noche de paz (SPANISH)

Noche de paz, noche de amor,
Todo duerme en derredor.
Entre sus astros que esparcen
su luz
Bella anunciando al niño Jesús
Brilla la estrella de paz
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The Origin of Silent Night, Holy Night

Perhaps the best known Christmas carol is Silent Night, written in 1818 by an Austrian assistant priest Joseph Mohr. He was told the day before Christmas that the church organ was broken and would not be repaired in time for Christmas Day. Saddened, he sat down to write three stanzas that could be sung by choir to guitar music.

"Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" was heard for the first time at that Midnight Mass in St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria. The congregation listened as the voices of the Fr. Joseph Mohr and the choir director, Franz Xaver Gruber, rang through the church to the accompaniment of Fr. Mohr's guitar. Today, Silent Night, Holy Night is sung in more than 180 languages by millions of people.

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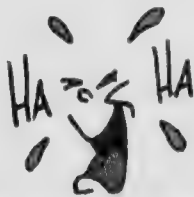
Quick Tidbit About Languages

Today, there are more than 2 700 different languages spoken in the world, with more than 7 000 dialects. In Indonesia alone, 365 different languages are spoken. More than 1,000 different languages are spoken in Africa. The most difficult language to learn is Basque, which is spoken in north-western Spain and south-western France. It is not related to any other language in the world. Mandarin is the **most spoken** language in the world, followed by English. But as home language, Spanish is the second most spoken in the world.

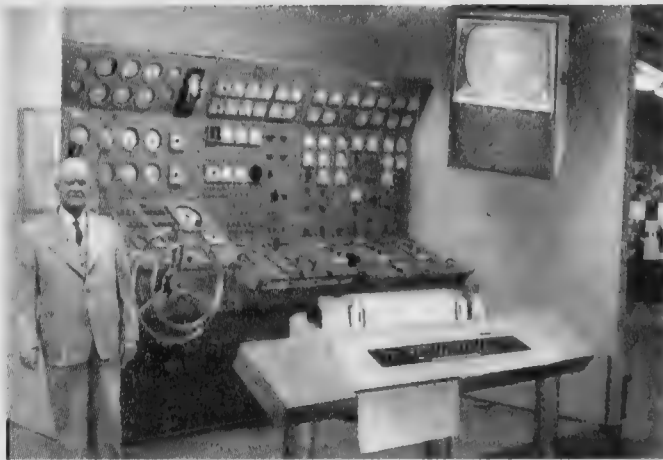
The "invention" of language is not known except for references in the Bible. It is not known what language Adam and Eve spoke. The first mention of different languages is the reference to the tower of Babel when different tongues were bestowed.

The invention of writing, however, is credited to the Sumerians of Mesopotamia in the 4th millennium BC. Their descendants, the Sumero-Babylonians, developed the time system that we use today: an hour divided into 60 minutes, which are divided into 60 seconds.

**You know you're getting old
when: It takes longer to rest
than it did to get tired.**



Home Computers Predicted For 2004....



Man... am I ever glad they were wrong with this one... I already don't have room as is for all my computer gear, imagine this one.

Scientists from RAND Corporation created this model to illustrate how a "home compouter" could look like in the year 2004. They went on to say "however, the needed technology will not be economically feasible for the average home. Also the scientists readily admit that the computer will require not yet invented technology to actually work, but 50 years from now scientific progress is expaected to solve these problems. With teletype interface and the Fortran language, the computer will be easy to use.

You know you're getting old: When your idea of weight lifting is standing up.

Highlands Learning Program Holding Tutor Training Series...

... from pg. 25

Quick Response is the Most Important thing

The other side of the literacy coin is their ongoing need to have a roster of trained volunteers available throughout the county. It is vitally important to have prepared volunteers to be matched immediately when their new student has reached out for help.

The Haliburton Highlands Learning Program upcoming 2005 Tutor Training series will be held January 21, 28 and February 3 running from 9 a.m. noon.

If you are interested in becoming a tutor, they ask that you attend the full training series. In addition, sometimes based on your interest and background you may wish to work with them to develop a special small group initiative. For example, they have offered cooking and measurement, sewing and measurement, calculator usage, job interview preparation and many more short term small group learning opportunities

In the past they have matched a snowbird and another individual so that they are able to share a student to provide an ongoing learning experience. They like to be flexible to make things work for both students and volunteers

For training registration or more information, call Jane Selbie at the Haliburton Highlands Learning Program 705-457-3430. During the holidays we are closed from Dec. 20-Jan4.

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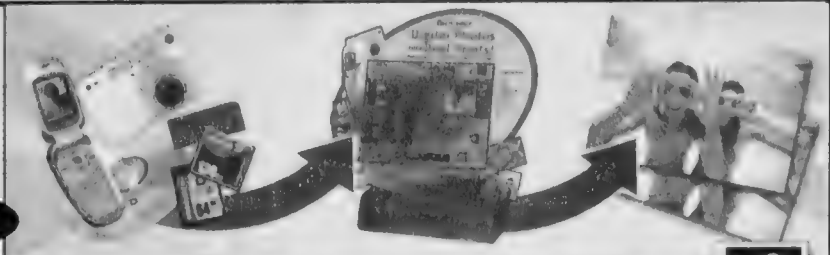


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Merry Christmas

Fill your heart with God's light, and spread the love of his message to all you meet.
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Who Dun-It



"Drowning at Circle Square, residence 127. Ambulance on route. Any units in the area please respond immediately," came over the police radio as Detective Minden sat in the parking lot of Tim Horton's munching on a Boston Cream Donut. He immediately rushed to the scene. Constable Gelert and the ambulance had already arrived on the scene moments earlier. Minden strolled over to the commotion by the swimming pool, about 60 feet to the rear of the mansion. The first response had already pulled Mona Leeza from the pool and was working to try and revive her. Within moments they had her on a stretcher and were loading her on to the ambulance.

Case of the Dubious Drowning

"No signs of life sir," said one of the paramedics. Minden made his way over to Constable Gelert who was talking to a confused looking man. "Are you Mr. Leeza, the woman's husband?" asked Minden. "Yes sir I am. I called this in just a few minutes ago," replied Mr. Leeza who was still staring at the ambulance as it drove away. "I found Mona laying face down in the pool. The poor dear must have had a heart attack while swimming and drowned."

"Were you looking for her then?" Inquired Minden.
"Yes, I noticed she was late coming back from her swim. It was after 3 p.m."

"Did she swim every day?" asked Minden.
"Yes, every afternoon. Even now in October while it's getting chilly. We were planning on closing the pool down next week. Only one week later and this never could have happened!"

Minden looked around. He could tell the pool was well maintained, though the furnishings were few; three lounge chairs, and a small table. A pair of sandals lay beside one of the loungers, and a book and a pair of sunglasses lay on the table.

"Did your wife have a weak heart, Mr. Leeza?" asked Minden.
"Just a bit of angina, but she took medication for that, the poor dear."

"Gelert," Minden said quietly as he drew Gelert aside. "If Mona can't be revived will there be an autopsy required?"
"Of course."

"Well, I don't think there will be any water found in her lungs. She didn't drown. She died elsewhere, and was taken to the pool, which indicates murder to me. Until the autopsy is completed, I think you had better keep a good eye on Mona's husband."

Why does Detective Minden suspect that Mona was murdered?

answer pg. 62...

**You know you're getting old when:
Your memory is shorter and your
complaining lasts longer.**

The Gift Of Music - Our Gift To You All!!



Compliments of
The Highlands Communicator

Do you ever try to sing along with some of your favourite Christmas Carols, but darned if you know all the words? The Communicator is pleased to give everyone the Gift Of Music this season. The following pages contain the words to some of the more popular Christmas Carols. We hope you enjoy them and maybe even join in the singing now that you all know the words.

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for
his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down
his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on
the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby
awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying
he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look
down from the sky,
And stay by my side until
morning is nigh.

White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white
Christmas
Just like the ones I used to
know
Where the tree tops glisten and
the children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the
snow

I'm dreaming of a white
Christmas
With every Christmas card I
write
May your days be merry and
bright
And may all your Christmases
be white

Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth

Come they told me
Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum
A new born king to see
Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum
Our finest gifts we bring
Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum
Rum-pum-pum-pum
Rum-pum-pum-pum

Peace on earth, can it be
Years from now, perhaps we'll
see

See the day of glory
See the day when men of good
will

Live in peace, live in peace
again

Peace on earth, can it be

Every child must be made
aware
Every child must be made to
care
Care enough for his fellow man
To give all the love that he can

I pray my wish will come true
For my child and your child
too

He'll see the day of glory
See the day when men of good
will

Live in peace, live in peace
again

Peace on earth, can it be
Can it be

Pretty thing isn't it



Thanks for your year
long support!



*John & Robyn
and all the staff!*

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Minden



Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessing flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His
righteousness,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love

Deck the Halls

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Strike the harp and join the chorus,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.

Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.



The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in
fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping
their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was
so deep:

Chorus
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the the East, beyond
them far:
And to the earth it gave great
light,
And so it continued both day
and night:

And by the light of that same
star,
Three wise men came from
country far;
To seek for a King was their
intent,
And to follow the star wherever
it went:

This star drew night to the
northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and
stay,
Right over the place where Jesus
lay:

Then did they know as-
suredly
Within that house the King did
lie:
One entered in then for to see,
And found the babe in
poverty:

Then entered in those wise
men three,
Full reverently upon their
knee:
And offered there in his
presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and
frankincense:

Between an ox-stall and an ass
This child truly there born he
was:
For want of clothing they did
for him lay
All in a manger, among the
hay:

Then let us all with one ac-
cord
Sing prais-es to our heavenly
Lord.
That hath made heaven and
earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind
hath bought:

If we in our time shall do well,
We shall be free from death
and hell;
For God hath prepared for us
all
A resting place in general:



Treasure The Moments

Christmas is a time for celebrating. We hope that this season brings you joy, hope and peace as you gather with friends and family. And may the light and warmth of the season and throughout your life in the coming year.

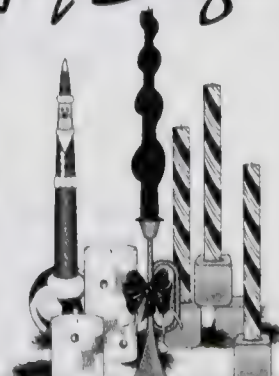
**Andy, Mary & Gail
Kitchen's Etc.**

Haliburton

Let The Joy Begin

Merry
Christmas from
our family
to yours!

The Rowden Family
of D & K Masonry



O Christmas Tree

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree!
How are thy leaves so verdant!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How are thy leaves so verdant!

Not only in the summertime,
But even in winter is thy prime.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How are thy leaves so verdant!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

For every year the Christmas tree,
Brings to us all both joy and glee.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy candles shine out brightly!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy candles shine out brightly!

Each bough doth hold its tiny light,
That makes each toy to sparkle bright.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy candles shine out brightly!

Blue Christmas

I'll have a blue christmas
without you;
I'll be so blue thinking
about you.
Decorations of red on a
green christmas tree
Won't mean a thing if
you're not here with me.
I'll have a blue christmas,
that's certain;
And when that blue
heartache starts hurtin',
You'll be doin' all right
with your christmas of
white.
But I'll have a blue, blue
christmas.



God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

God rest you merry,
gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's
power
When we were gone astray

Chorus:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly
Father
A blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.
(Chorus)

"Fear not, then," said the
angel,
"Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Saviour
Of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in
him
From Satan's power and
might." (Chorus)

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and
brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
Doth bring redeeming grace.
(Chorus)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!

Christ, by highest heaven
adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to
dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! (Refrain)

Mild he lays his glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail, the heaven-born Prince of
Peace! (Refrain)

Come, Desire of nations come,
Fix in us Thy humble home;
Rise, the Woman's conquering
Seed,
Bruise in us the Serpent's head
Adam's likeness now efface
Stamp Thine image in its place;
Second Adam, from above,
Reinstate us in thy love
(Refrain)

Warm thoughts at Christmas

Hope your Christmas
and New Year are
filled with warm
thoughts and
glad tiding.

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Ho, Ho, Ho

and a Merry Christmas
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Henwood's Variety

Jingle Bell Rock

Jingle bell jingle bell jingle bell
Rock
Jingle bell swing & jingle bell
ring
Snowing & blowing up bushel
of fun
Now the jingle hearts began

Jingle bell jingle bell jingle bell
Rock
Jingle bell chime & jingle bell
time
Dancing and prancing in jingle
bell square
In the frosty air

Wow! The bright tiem is in the
right time
To rock the night away
Jingle bell time is a swell time
To go gliding in a one-horse
sleigh

Giddy up - jingle horse pick up
your feet
Jingle around the clock
Mix and mingle in a jingling beat
That's the jingle bell jingle bell
jingle bell rock

Let It Snow!

Oh! the weather outside is
frightful
But the fire is so delightful
And since we've no place to go
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!

It doesn't show signs of
stopping
And I brought some corn for
popping
The lights are turned way down
low
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!

When we finally kiss good night
How I'll hate going out in the
storm
But if you'll really hold me
tight
All the way home I'll be warm

The fire is slowly dying
And, my dear, we're still good
byeing
But as long as you love me so
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!



Jingle Bells

Dashing thru the snow, in a one-
horse open sleigh
Over the fields we go, laughing all
the way
Bells on bob-tail ring, making
spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight. Oh

Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh
Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh

A day or two ago, I thought I'd
take a ride
And soon Miss Fanny Bright,
was seated by my side
The horse was lean and lank,
misfortune seemed his lot
He got into a drifted bank
And so we got upset

Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh
Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh

Now the ground in white, go it
while you're still young
Take the girls tonight, and sing
this sleighing song
Just get a bob-tailed bay, two
forty for his speed
Then hitch him to an open sleigh
And crack you'll take the lead

Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh
Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh



Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out
on the feast of Stephen,
when the snow lay round about,
deep and crisp and even.
Brightly shown the moon that
night,
though the frost was cruel,
when a poor man came in sight,
gathering winter fuel.

Hither, page, and stand by me.
If thou know it telling:
yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?
Sire, he lives a good league hence,
underneath the mountain,
right against the forest fence
by Saint Agnes fountain.

Bring me flesh, and bring me
wine.
Bring me pine logs hither.
Thou and I will see him dine
when we bear them thither.
Page and monarch, forth they
went,
forth they went together
through the rude wind's wild
lament
and the bitter weather.

Sire, the night is darker now,
and the wind blows stronger.
Fails my heart, I know not how.
I can go no longer.
Mark my footsteps my good
page,
tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
freeze thy blood less coldly.

In his master's step he trod,
where the snow lay dented.
Heat was in the very sod
which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be
sure,
wealth or rank possessing,
ye who now will bless the poor
shall yourselves find blessing.



During The Holidays

**We take great happiness in greeting
all our special friends and customers
this season. May your holiday be
filled with warmth and joy.**

from the Staff and Management of
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Do You Hear What I Hear?

Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see?
'Way up in the sky, little lamb
Do you see what I see?

A star, a star
Dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing thru the sky, shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?

A song, a song
High above the tree
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king
Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king
Do you know what I know?

A Child, a Child
Shivers in the cold
Let us bring Him silver and gold
Let us bring Him silver and gold

Said the king to the people ev'rywhere
Listen to what I say!
Pray for peace, people ev'rywhere
Listen to what I say!

The Child, the Child
Sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light



O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to
Bethlehem:
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O Come, let us adore him, Christ
the Lord.

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's
womb:
Very God,
Begotten, not created; Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above;
Glory to God
In the highest; Refrain

See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh
to gaze;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps;
Refrain

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with
love and awe;
Who would not live thee,
Loving us so dearly? Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing; Refrain

Little Drummer Boy

Come they told me
pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see,
pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring
pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
So to honor Him
pa rum pum pum pum,
when we come.

Little Baby
pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too,
pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring
pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give our King
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
Shall I play for you!
pa rum pum pum
on my drum.

Mary nodded
pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time
pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him
pa rum pum pum
I played my best for Him
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
Then He smiled at me
pa rum pum pum pum
me and my drum.

Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the snowman
Was a jolly, happy soul,
With a corncob pipe and a
button nose
And two eyes made out of coal.

Frosty the Snow Man
Is a fairy tale, they say;
He was made of snow, but the
children know
How he came to life one day.

There must have been some
magic in
That old silk hat they found,
For when they placed it on his
head,
He began to dance around.

Oh, Frosty the snow man
Was alive as he could be,
And the children say he could
laugh and play
Just the same as you and me.

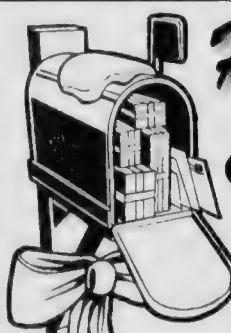
Frosty the snow man
Knew the sun was hot that day,
So he said, "Let's run and we'll
have some fun
Now before I melt away."

Down to the village
With a broomstick in his hand,
Running here and there all
around the square,
Sayin', "Catch me if you can."

He led them down the streets of
town
Right to a traffic cop,
And he only paused a moment
when
He heard him holler "Stop!"

For Frosty the snow man
Had to hurry on his way,
But he waved good-bye, sayin',
"Don't you cry,
I'll be back again someday."

Thumpety thump thump,
thumpety thump thump,
Look at Frosty go:
Thumpety thump thump,
thumpety thump thump,
Over the hills of snow.



Happy Holidays!

from your friends at the

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What Child is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with
anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are
keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and
angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and
myrrh,
Come peasant king to own Him,
The King of kings, salvation
brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high,
The Virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and
child.
Holy infant so tender and
mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven
afar,
Heavely hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Saviour, is born!
Christ the Saviour, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy
face,
With the dawn of redeeming
grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Rocking Around The Christmas Tree

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
At the Christmas party hop!
Mistletoe hung where you can see;
Ev'ry couple tries to stop.

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
Let the Christmas spirit ring!
Later we'll have some pun'kin pie
And we'll do some caroling.

You will get a sentimental feeling
When you hear
Voices singing "Let's be jolly.
Deck the halls with boughs of
holly!"

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
have a happy holiday!
Ev'ryone dancing merrily
In the new old fashioned way!

Sleigh Ride

Just hear those sleigh bells
jingling,
ring ting tingling too
Come on, it's lovely weather
for a sleigh ride together with
you,
Outside the snow is falling
and friends are calling "Yoo hoo,"
Come on, it's lovely weather
for a sleigh ride together with
you.

Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy
yap,
let's go, Let's look at the show,
We're riding in a wonderland of
snow.
Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy
yap,
it's grand, Just holding your hand,
We're gliding along with a song
of a wintry fairy land.

Our cheeks are nice and rosy
and comfy cozy are we
We're snuggled up together
like two birds of a feather would
be
Let's take that road before us
and sing a chorus or two
Come on, it's lovely weather
for a sleigh ride together with
you.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless
sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the
years
Are met in thee to-night.

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels
keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive
him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

Where children pure and happy
Pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory
breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.

O holy Child of Bethlehem!
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!



WE'RE LIFTING OUR VOICES

To our friends and neighbours, we'd
like to say "Thank You"
for all your support this year!

Merry Christmas
and a very happy 2005



**THE HAIR LOUNGE
THE LOUNGE CAFÉ**

Carnarvon • 489-3311



Winter Wonderland

Sleigh bells ring, are you
list'nin'?
In the lane snow is glist'nin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy
tonight
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is the new bird
He sings a love song as we go
along
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

In the meadow we can build a
snowman
Then pretend that he is Parson
Brown
He'll say "Are you married?"
We'll say, "No, man!"
but you can do the job when
you're in town!"

Later on we'll conspire
As we dream by the fire
To face unafraid, the plans that
we made
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Sleigh bells ring, are you
list'nin'?
In the lane snow is glist'nin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy
tonight
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is the new bird
He's singing a song as we go
along
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

In the meadow we can build a
snowman
And pretend he's a circus clown
We'll have lots of fun with
Mister Snowman
Until the older kiddies knock
'im down!

When it snows, ain't it thrillin'
Tho' your nose gets a chillin'
We'll frolic and play the Eskimo
way
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Up on the House Top

Up on the house top reindeer
pause
Out jumps good old Santa Claus
Down thro' the chimney with
lots of toys,
All for the little ones, Christmas
joys

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

First comes the stocking of little
Nell
Oh dear Santa, fill it well
Give her a dollie that laughs and
crys
One that will open and shut her
eyes

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

Next comes the stocking of little
Will
Oh just see what a glorious fill
Here is a hammer and lots of
tacks
Also a ball and a whip that
cracks

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be
forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be
forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness
yet,
for auld lang syne

Silver Bells

City sidewalks, busy
sidewalks
Dressed in holiday style
In the air there's a feeling of
Christmas

Children laughing, people
passing
Meeting smile after smile
And on ev'ry street corner
you hear:

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the
city
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas
day

Strings of street lights, even
stop lights
Blink a bright red and green
As the shoppers rush home
with their treasures

Hear the snow crunch, see
the kids bunch
This is Santa's big scene
And above all this bustle
you hear:

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the
city
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas
day

The Twelve Days of Christmas

On the 1st day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
A partridge in a pear tree
On the 2nd day of Christmas
my true love sent to me...
Two turtle doves
On the 3rd day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
Three French hens
On the 4th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
Four calling birds
On the 5th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
Five gold rings
On the 6th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
Six geese a-laying
On the 7th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
Seven swans a-swimming
On the 8th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
Eight maids a-milking
On the 9th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me...
Nine drummers drumming
On the 10th day of Christmas
my true love sent to me...
Ten pipers piping
On the 11th day of Christmas
my true love sent to me...
Eleven ladies dancing
On the 12th day of Christmas
my true love sent to me...
Twelve lords a-leaping

*In that long-ago
night in Bethlehem,
Jesus came into our world,
and into our hearts.*

**All of us wish you and
your family a blessed
Christmas and a
Happy New Year.**

**Mike, Kim
at & Staff**
*Witz's Jewellery
& Gifts*

The Christmas Song

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
Jack Frost nipping on your nose
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir
And folks dressed up like Eskimos

Everybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe
Help to make the season bright
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow
Will find it hard to sleep tonight

They know that Santa's on his way
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh
And every mother's child is going to spy
To see if reindeer really know how to fly

And so I'm offering this simple phrase
To kids from one to ninety-two
Although its been said many times, many ways
Merry Christmas to you

War is Over

So this is Christmas
And what have you done
Another year over
And a new one just begun
And so this is Christmas
I hope you have fun
The near and the dear ones
The old and the young

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

And so this is Christmas
For weak and for strong
For rich and the poor ones
The world is so wrong
And so Happy Christmas
For black and for white
For yellow and red ones
Let's stop all the fight

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

And so this is Christmas
And what have we done
Another year over
And a new one just begun
And so Happy Christmas
I hope you have fun
The near and the dear one
The old and the young

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

War is over if you want it
War is over now

Where Are You Christmas

Where are you Christmas
Why can't I find you
Why have you gone away
Where is the laughter
You used to bring me
Why can't I hear music play

My world is changing
I'm rearranging
Does that mean Christmas
changes too

Where are you Christmas
Do you remember
The one you used to know
I'm not the same one
See what the time's done
Is that why you have let me go

Christmas is here everywhere,
oh
Christmas is here if you care,
oh

If there is love in your heart
and your mind
You will feel like Christmas all
the time

I feel you Christmas
I know I've found you
You never fade away
The joy of Christmas
Stays here in silence
Fills each and every heart with
love

Where are you Christmas
Fills your heart with love

The Grinch's Song

You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch
You really are a heel,
You're as cuddly as a cactus,
you're as charming as an eel,
Mr. Grinch.
You're a bad banana with a
greasy black peel!

You're a monster, Mr. Grinch,
Your heart's an empty hole,
Your brain is full of spiders,
you have garlic in your soul,
Mr. Grinch,
I wouldn't touch you with a
thirty-nine-and-a-half foot
pole!

You're a foul one, Mr. Grinch,
You have termites in your
smile,
You have all the tender
sweetness of a seasick
crocodile, Mr. Grinch,
Given a choice between the
two of you I'd take the
seasick crocodile!

You're a rotter, Mr. Grinch,
You're the king of sinful sots,
Your heart's a dead tomato
spotted with moldy purple
spots, Mr. Grinch,
You're a three decker
sauerkraut and toadstool
sandwich with arsenic sauce!

You nauseate me, Mr. Grinch,
With a nauseous super
"naus"!.

You're a crooked dirty jockey
and you drive a crooked hoss,
Mr. Grinch.

Your soul is an appalling
dump heap overflowing with
the most disgraceful
assortment of rubbish
imaginable mangled up in
tangled up knots!

You're a foul one, Mr. Grinch,
You're a nasty wasty skunk,
Your heart is full of unwashed
socks, your soul is full of
gunk, Mr. Grinch,
The three words that best
describe you are as follows,
and I quote,
"Stink, stank, stunk"!



Warm Wishes and Gratitude

As we get ready to ring in the holidays,
we wish to take this time to extend our
thanks to everyone who has supported
us this year in any way. Your help has
been appreciated and not forgotten.
We wish you all a wonderful Christmas
and a prosperous and healthy New Year!

*From Donna MacDonald, Sherry Mulholland,
Ida Schultz, Sheri Deterling, Judy Cumming,
Roxanne Casey, Reg Raby, Amy Brohm, and
all the Volunteers.*

Thank you for supporting Home Support **457-2941**

www.haliburtonhomesupport.com



**Haliburton County Home
Support Services**

Yes Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus!

Where does the expression "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" actually come from?.. The following will explain... it is an actual copy of what appeared in the Editorial Page of the New York Sun in 1879....

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus
Editorial Page, New York Sun, 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

Virginia cont'd... pg. 40..

You know you're getting old when: Your address book has mostly names that start with "Dr."

Because We Think Everyone Needs a Little Hug Sometimes!



457-2959

Have a Beary Merry Christmas from Carol, Bob and Friends at Teddy Time!

Don't forget to visit our Special Christmas Room

**Not Quite Main Street, Hwy #121
Haliburton Village**

website: www.teddytime.com



Virginia - The Story Behind The Letter & What Happened To Her

... from pg. 39

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and became one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, over a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until



**Wishing You A
Yummy Christmas**
from everyone at

**THE BUTCHER BLOCK
AND DELI**

*"For The Finest In Meat
And Seafood"*

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Haliburton
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Fun & Games
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**We Hope You
Have a FUN
Christmas!**

Fine Billiard & Games Tables



Highland Leisure

Located on Hwy. 35, Just North of Hwy. 118, **489-3131**

Carnarvon

1949 when the paper went out of business.

Thirty-six years after her letter was printed, Virginia O'Hanlon recalled the events that prompted her letter:

"Quite naturally I believed in Santa Claus, for he had never disappointed me. But when less fortunate little boys and girls said there wasn't any Santa Claus, I was filled with doubts. I asked my father, and he was a little evasive on the subject.

"It was a habit in our family that whenever any doubts came up as to how to pronounce a word or some question of historical fact was in doubt, we wrote to the Question and Answer column in 'The Sun'. Father would always say, 'If you see it in the "The Sun", it's so,' and that settled the matter.

"Well, I'm just going to write 'The Sun' and find out the real truth,' I said to father.

"He said, 'Go ahead, Virginia. I'm sure "The Sun" will give you the right answer, as it always does.' "

And so Virginia sat down and wrote to her parents' favorite newspaper.

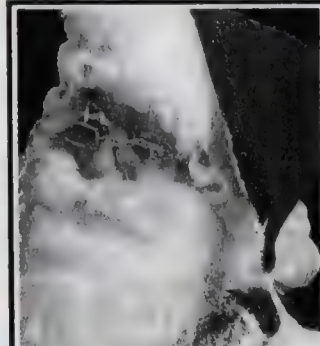
Her letter found its way into the hands of a veteran editor, Francis P. Church. Son of a Baptist minister, Church had covered the Civil War for "The New York Times" and had worked on the "The New York Sun" for 20 years, more recently as an anonymous editorial writer. Church, a sardonic man, had for his personal motto, "Endeavour to clear your mind of cant." When controversial subjects had to be tackled on the editorial page, especially those dealing with theology, the assignments were usually given to Church.

Now, he had in his hands a little girl's letter on a most controversial matter, and he was burdened with the responsibility of answering it.

"Is there a Santa Claus?" the childish scrawl in the letter asked. At once, Church knew that there was no avoiding the question. He must answer, and he must answer truthfully. And so he turned to his desk, and he began his reply which was to become one of the most memorable editorials in newspaper history.

Church married shortly after the editorial appeared. He died in April, 1906, leaving no children.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.



Holiday Magic

May the joy and wonder of the holidays fill your family with happiness.

*Eileen, Joe,
and Eleanor*

**Jadek Sports
Minden**

Dining and Entertainment

BonnieView Inn

Whether You Dine or Stay, You Won't Be Disappointed

The first signs of Haliburton's tourist industry started up in the early years of the last century when small cottage inns and resorts began to put in an appearance on Lake Kashagawigamog smack in the centre of the County. Birch Point, Wig-A-Mog, the Chateau Woodland were all in place before World War II, and at one time the Lake boasted almost twenty flourishing cottage resorts, all with their own personality and traditions.

In 1945 the Bonnie View Inn joined the crowd. The original owner, a Mr. Moodie, thought the site was enchanting, and imagined an old Scottish lady sitting alone contemplating the lake and sighing "Aye, but it's a Bonnie View." And so he had his resort's name, and its romantic tradition.

Moodie built a charming lodge with a sizeable dining room and lounge and huge stone fireplaces at either end. Generous windows gave a great view of the beach and the lake. Cottage and lodge accommodations were soon added and gradually many families made the lodge their semi-permanent home.

Through the years, and different owners, the Inn flourished, but by the early 1980s she was definitely showing her age, just when competition for the tourist dollar was really heating up. Then entrepreneur and Joan Waffle and her family bought the Inn and undertook a major renovation and renewal of the old resort. Additional accommodations and a lakeside bar/restaurant put in an appearance. The Bonnie View was soon popular and booming again when a sudden illness took the life of Mrs. Waffle, its owner and inspiration.

But soon new ownership and management appeared and the Bonnie View was ready to charge through the nineties into the 21st Century. Andrea Hagarty had known the Inn as a teenager (she worked next door at Birch Point) and just loved the place. In the early nineties the

opportunity to work at the resort with her spouse, chef Monte Miscio, came up and the pair have never looked back. Andrea is now General Manager and Monte the Executive Chef. And the Bonnie View is thriving.

The Bonnie View aggressively markets itself as an all-season destination with fine dining and romantic accommodations. The main lounge and dining room are as attractive as ever, the dockside bar is sparkling, and the facilities have been regularly upgraded. Accommodation boast a Honeymoon Chalet, Jacuzzi Suites and Private Chalets, two and three bedroom family chalets, and cozy and comfortable rooms in the Inn.

Chef Miscio's dining room is another major attraction: all rates include breakfast, dinner, and all facilities.

The Bonnie view has also become an important major wedding and small convention destination in the Highlands.

This fall alone saw eight weddings held at the Inn. This is a real tribute to the ambience, facilities, and management of the Bonnie View.

Plan your next romantic evening get-a-way at Bonnie View Inn, or why not bring the whole family and your friends,

and enjoy a terrific evening out with the gang.

For reservations and information call the Bonnie View at 705 457-2350.

Pictured above is the entrance to BonnieView, and one of the rooms. Also pictured is Andrea & Monte.



Wigamog Inn
RESORT



Thank You to all our local patrons for your continued support & future business. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Management & Staff of Wigamog Inn Resort.

Happy Holidays

We would also like to say thank you to our entire staff for your drive & dedication to the business and delivering exceptional customer service!

You're #1

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www.wigamoginn.com

Jewels

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FINE JEWELLERY AT FINE PRICES

Thank You To Everyone who made our Opening a Great Success!!

Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year

457-0045 **108 Main St. Minden**
(Golden Stationers)

Wed/Thurs 9:30 - 1 p.m. Fri/Sat 9:30 - 5 p.m.

Turkey Cooking Tips...

Preheat oven to 325°F(160°C).

If stuffing turkey, do so now. An easy way of removing stuffing is to insert a generous amount of cheesecloth into the cavity of the turkey leaving excess at the opening. Spoon stuffing lightly into turkey instead of packing because stuffing expands while cooking. (Allow ½ a cup (125 ml) of stuffing per pound (500 g) of turkey. (After roasting simply pull the cheesecloth out of the turkey in one quick action with no waste or mess.)

Roast uncovered, or loosely covered with foil. If you choose to baste your turkey, limit the number of times you open and close your oven (once an hour is sufficient).

If using a thermometer: Turkey is cooked when the meat thermometer reads 170°F(77°C) for an unstuffed turkey or 180°F(82°C) for a stuffed turkey and the juices run clear.

NOTE: Cooking times may vary depending on the temperature of the bird going into the oven, the accuracy of the oven's thermostat, how many times the oven door is opened during roasting, the size of the turkey in relation to the size of the oven

Remove turkey when cooking is completed and let stand 15 to 20 minutes to allow the juices to set.

NOTE: After cooking, keep the turkey hot, above 140°F(60°C) or refrigerate below 40°F(4°C). **DO NOT LEAVE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE FOR MORE THAN 2 HOURS!!!**

Remember:

Do not put cooked foods on the same plate that held raw product. Do not let raw meat or juices touch ready-to-eat foods either in the refrigerator or during preparation. Washing/rinsing meat and poultry prior to cooking is not necessary and may promote cross-contamination to other foods. If you choose to rinse raw poultry, be sure to wash sink and tap areas well with hot soapy water and disinfect with a bleach solution.

How Turkey became the Festive Bird...

In England, the harvest festival has been celebrated for many years. The story goes that Queen Elizabeth was sitting with the troops eating roast goose to celebrate the harvest festival. News was brought to her that the Spanish Armada had sunk on its way to attack England. The queen was so delighted that she ordered a second goose to celebrate the good news and thus, the goose became the choice bird at festival time in England.

When the pilgrims came to the New World, they carried on the tradition of celebrating the harvest festival but geese were not plentiful. Since there were lots of wild turkeys and they were easier to find, they roasted turkeys instead.

How much turkey do I buy?

Whole Bird: count on buying approximately one pound per person. Therefore, a 10 pound (4.5 kilogram) turkey would serve 10 people.

Turkey Assistance:

For over 20 years, the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line has delivered hands-on holiday help to turkey cooks (and first-time turkey makers) everywhere.

If you have any questions what-so-ever about turkeys – how to cook, carve, prepare, store, thaw – whatever, you can call 1-800-butterball.

They also have a great website www.butterball.com which offers free how-to video assistance in preparing, cooking and stuffing a turkey.

The regular hours of the turkey hotline on Christmas Eve and Christmas day are 6 a.m. – 3 p.m. From December 16 to the 27 (excluding Christmas eve & day) the Turkey Talk-Line is

manned from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Automated assistance is available after hours. If you are stuck – give them a call!!

325° °F(160° C) Weight	Roasting Times	
	Stuffed	Unstuffed
6 - 8 lbs (3.0 - 3.5 kg)	3 - 3 ½ hours	2 ½ - 2 ¾ hours
8 - 10 lbs (3.5 - 4.5 kg)	3 ¼ - 3 ½ hours	2 ¾ - 3 hours
10 - 12 lbs (4.5 - 5.5 kg)	3 ½ - 3 ¾ hours	3 - 3 ½ hours
12 - 16 lbs (5.5 - 7.0 kg)	3 ¾ - 4 hours	3 ¼ - 3 ½ hours
16 - 22 lbs (7.0 - 10.0 kg)	4 - 4 ½ hours	3 ½ - 4 hours

Be The Dude Bring The Pizza



Delivery also available
Call ahead for faster take-out.

Take-out or Eat-in

Highland St.
Haliburton 457-3424

Sunday/Monday-Closed, Tues-Thurs- 11:30-8 p.m, Fri 11:30-10, Sat 11:30-9

**Pasta
Ta
Pizza**

LLBO

Brigitte Gall: A Gal With Down-To-Earth Brand of Humour

Haliburton's Resident is host of "Me, My House & I" series

Brigitte Gall is a Saskatchewan gamine who sweeps into a room like a summer Prairie fire. Which is quite a feat, at a Tim Hortons, in November, in Minden. On the other hand, Brigitte has played a lot of cold rooms in her highly successful career as an actor, writer and comedian in venues all over North America. She's used to winning her audiences' hearts - along with a lot of laughs. And these days she's taking on the world from her cottage/home on Haliburton's Bat Lake.

Brigitte Gall was brought up in the tiny town of Creelman, Saskatchewan, and later went to high school in Regina. From a very early age she felt she wanted to break out of small town life and experience the wider world in all its diversity. In the 1980s the Canada World Youth program provided a way for youngsters to travel, immerse themselves in another culture and as well provide some help to those in need. Brigitte ended up in rural Pakistan for several months, and comments, "the trip changed my life for ever, no question. It's an awfully long way from Creelman to Pakistan, for sure, and in more ways than one. And it made me see my own culture, the good and the bad, in a really fresh way."

Back in Canada Brigitte quickly found her way to Toronto and quickly became mesmerised by the local comedy scene, and in particular the Harbourfront Improv and Second City. After a stint at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, she came back to Toronto in the early 1990s. She became a regular denizen of a writers/actors/comedians' pub called The Idler and learned quickly that if she simply told her own stories, from her own unique perspective, that she could make people laugh - and think at the same time.

And she's been telling those stories, and more, with great acclaim

ever since. Early on she adapted her club act to television with great success, becoming a much-loved regular on the Comedy Network. In the mid-1990s the

awards and professional accolades started to flow in earnest. She received a Gemini Award for Best Performance in a Variety Program or Series for her lead role in the TV special "Joan of Montreal," which she also co-wrote. The program also won the Gold Medal at the Houston World Film and Television Festival.

Then came a real departure. She was asked to audition for a television series to be called "The World's Greatest Spas." She thought at first it was some kind of joke. "Why would they want this Polish-Ukrainian Prairie girl with huge hands doing this jet-setter international spa number?" she remembers thinking. But she figured the audition could be a useful experience anyway and decided she'd approach it with her own, down-to-earth brand of Prairie humour and honesty. When the producers phoned to offer the job

she almost fell down in shock and wanted to know if they really did want the real Brigitte Gall? Well, it seems they did, and after two years and 52 episodes Brigitte was firmly established as uniquely talented television personality and host.

Brigitte cont'd... pg. 46...





VILLAGE CHALET

Family Restaurant

Happy Holidays to one and all!

From Janice & Craig Faulkner and Staff

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Downtown Minden**

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To One & All!!



Large Children's Menu
Specialty Wine List

Alberta, Angus &
AAA Ontario Beef
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Open 6 days a week from 4 p.m.
Closed Tuesdays

Reserve early for our New Years Eve Dinner

Hwy 35 South of Carnarvon **489-1939**

The Origin of Fruit Cake

Fruitcake has been a part of festive celebrations for a very long time. It's been popular in Europe since Roman times, when cooks mixed raisins, pine nuts and pomegranate seeds into barley mash. In the Middle Ages, honey, dried fruits and spices were added to bread dough for special occasions. At one time, fruitcake was considered semi-sacred, with laws in place in Europe until the end of the 18th century that restricted its making to celebrations such as Christmas, Easter, weddings, and the like.

It's impossible to age a fruitcake too long, say those in the know. If stored in an airtight container and basted occasionally with liquor, it'll keep indefinitely.

Seasons Greetings

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Wato Sundin

Quick Leftover Turkey Recipes

Turkey Bruschetta:

Brush slices of Italian bread with olive oil, top with minced garlic and toast in the oven. Spoon on a combination of turkey, shredded mozzarella cheese, and chopped fresh basil. Broil until cheese melts.

Hot and Spicy Turkey Chili:

Combine sautéed green pepper and onion with turkey, canned tomatoes, canned red kidney beans and a touch of crushed red pepper. Top with corn chips.

Turkey Grape Salad:

Combine turkey with halved green grapes, toasted sliced almonds, sliced green onions, orange zest and light mayonnaise.

Turkey Stir-Fry:

Stir turkey into stir-fried broccoli florets and red bell pepper strips. Add minced garlic, fresh ginger, soy sauce and a sprinkle of sesame oil.

Turkey and Spinach Tetrazzini:

Combine turkey with cooked spaghetti, chopped sun-dried tomatoes, a thawed package of frozen creamed spinach, minced garlic, and Parmesan cheese. Bake until heated through.

Breaded Turkey, Italian-style:

Dip turkey slices in beaten egg, coat with fine breadcrumbs, and brown in melted butter. Transfer to baking dish and top with spaghetti sauce, shredded mozzarella cheese, chopped mushrooms and green pepper. Bake until cheese melts.

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A Pioneer Christmas In Canada

Early pioneers came to Canada from Europe. They didn't celebrate Christmas the way we do today. Most pioneer families didn't put up a Christmas tree. These people were of English, Scottish and Irish descent. The Christmas tree tradition didn't originate in those countries.

The Christmas tree came to Canada with settlers from Pennsylvania. These people were of German heritage, where the Christmas tree idea originated. In time, other people saw the German people's trees and began putting up a tree in their homes.



British families hung greens, which consisted of ivy, mistletoe and holly. Since these weren't available during the winter months, they made evergreen boughs into garland.

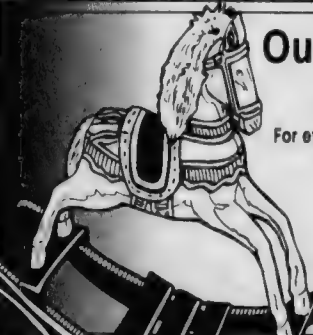
These hung on mantles, stair banisters and about the door outside.

Pioneers used things from nature for decorations. Cranberries, nuts, berries, feathers and pinecones all gave the log cabins a festive look.

Stockings were hung by the hearth or on bedposts. Excited children opened their stockings to find apples, nuts, a treasured jackknife or corn husk doll, wooden puzzles, and whistles whittled from wood. Sometimes the children were lucky enough to receive a homemade rocking horse, sled or snowshoes. Other gifts were handkerchiefs, scarves, mittens, hats and socks.

Christmas morning, families opened their modest gifts and then played a game of hide the thimble or blind man's bluff. They didn't have the board and computer games that we have today.

The biggest treat of all was dinner. Wild turkey or goose would be the guest of honour at the dinner table. Squash, turnip, cooked carrots, potatoes and gravy graced the table. For dessert, fruit, mincemeat pie, plum or currant pudding made a perfect end to a perfect day.



Our Christmas Wish:

For every girl and every boy
The perfect gift and lots of joy.
For everyone who's been good this year,
A holiday that's full of cheer.

Season's greetings!

**Gopher's Cafe
Haliburton**

Razzamataz Kids Shows!

Submitted by Jennifer Paton

The second show in the Razzamataz series takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday January 9, 2005, when the Funky Mamas come to the Northern Lights Pavilion in Haliburton.

The Funky Mamas mix blues, pop, bluegrass and folk, with harmonizing vocals and a playful variety of instruments, including pennywhistle and musical saw. They cover familiar tunes such as Teddy Bears' Picnic and Oh Susannah, and compose creative originals like Pancake Song and Bedtime Blues.

Kate, Alicia, Georgia, Chantal, Pam and Tannis have 15 children among them, and know how to get kids giggling, dancing and singing along with their colourful antics. Reviewers emphasize that adults will enjoy the music too. Eric Thom compared the Funky Mamas to Eric Nagler, Jack Grunsky, Raffi, and Fred Penner when he wrote, "There are great Canadian acts that understand that parents are listening too." In fact, the Mamas confidently guarantee happy parents, laughing children and good times! You can find out more about them at www.thefunkymamas.com To take the funkiness home, they will be selling CDs, T-shirts and instruments at the show.

This show is presented through the generous sponsorship of Minden Pharmasave Drug Store, Churko Furniture and Haliburton IGA. Tickets are available at the door, and adult tickets are \$8 while children's are \$6. Children under 2 are admitted free of charge. For more information call Amy Klose at 457-4266 or Stacey Bennett at 286-4511.

You can also learn more about the Funky Mamas, and about the 2004-2005 Razzamataz season, at the NEW WEBSITE, www.razzamataz.ca. If you never really paid attention to how many z's there are in Razzamataz, you will need to spell it correctly this time to find the website!

**Razzamataz
fun continues
with the
Funky Mamas**

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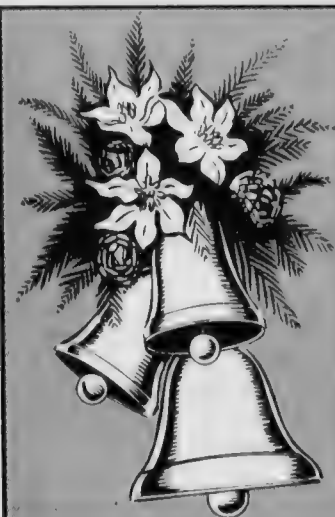
- Corn Roasts
- Pig Roasts
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- Parties

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*Holiday
Greetings*

We're happy to have this opportunity to express our gratitude and offer our very best wishes to all of you at this joyous time of year.

Thank you!

Steve, Jane & Staff

**Haliburton
SUBWAY**

Brigitte Finds A Home In Haliburton County...



...from pg. 43

Not that she's lost sight of her other jobs. She continues to act in and write dramas and short films, and of course to perform live comedy routines. But television series are a strong call. This year marks her third season as host of the popular *Me, My House, & I* series, which gently but firmly gives advice and comfort to klutzy home renovators, both women and men. Brigitte is alternately very funny, and very smart as she guides viewers through jobs as varied as insulating a garage and building a stone path through a garden. She describes the series as, "a sort of 'Roseanne' of the decorating/design shows, affordable, do-able, and not afraid to be a little saucy."

Brigitte and her spouse David Mackenzie (a much-awarded drama and comedy writer) fell in love with Haliburton County in the late 1990s when they were searching for a country retreat. Their cottage on Bat Lake is both their home and their sanctuary. It also helps that it's about half way between Toronto, their work centre, and Ottawa, where Brigitte tapes her *Me, My House, & I* series.

Brigitte cheerfully admits to feeling completely at home here, and has already helped out in the community. In November she co-hosted, with Ron James, an hysterically funny benefit performance to raise funds for Permafrost, the ad-hoc organization committed to keeping the Frost Centre alive. And you can be sure, as she continues to tell her own stories, straight-up, edgy, and aware, that her new home and community will inevitably play its part.

**You know you're old when: you sit in a
rocking chair and can't get it going.**

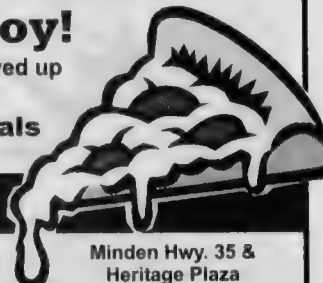
Have a HUGE SLICE of Christmas Joy!

Hope your Christmas is served up
with all the toppings!

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Twass The Month AFTER Christmas... And Nothing Would FIT!!

'Twas the month after Christmas, and all through the house
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.

When I got on the scales there arose such a number!
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber).
I'd remember the marvellous meals I'd prepared;
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared,

The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese
And the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."

As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt.
I said to myself, as I only can
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man!"

So away with the last of the sour cream dip,
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished
Till all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie – not even a lick.
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore,
But isn't that what January is for?
Unable to giggle; no longer a riot.
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!

**God gave us Christmas; May his presence be with
each of you every day of the year!**

*Thanks to everyone who helped make this such a special year:
to each customer no matter where you purchased our products,
and special appreciation to our exceptional team-mates*

*Mikey, Candy, Ruth, Valmand & Dan
~ for all your help ~ you make it happen!*

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seniors portion of fish and chips or a ham steak.

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Every Friday - 4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - featuring our famous
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salad bar, cut it with your fork roast beef and roast potatoes.

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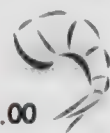
New Years Eve Buffet



Dec 31st - 4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - featuring
soup & salad bar, hip of beef, bbq ribs (cut to
your liking), rotisserie 1/4 chicken, decorated
salmon, butterfly shrimp, seafood salad, roast
potatoes, stir fried veggies, fruit trays, cheese trays,
veggie trays, and last but not least, an awry of mouth watering
desserts, non-alcoholic beverages

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Do More, Do Differently, Do the Right Things

Regional healthcare providers support Ontario Cancer Plan

Recently, Dr. Peter Dixon, Regional Vice President for Cancer Services (Central East), Cancer Care Ontario, and other important Central East health care organizations enthusiastically supported the Ontario Cancer Plan. The plan, released today by the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health & Long-term care, and Dr. Terrence Sullivan, CEO of Cancer Care Ontario, outlines six priority areas which, over the next three (3) years, will make the greatest impact on quality cancer services over the next decade.

"To have the greatest impact on the treatment and lives of cancer patients, we need to *do more* – improving waiting times for surgery and other treatments, *do differently* – expanding regional programs and measuring performance, and finally *do the right things* – using proven standards and guidelines and increasing accountability," said Dr. Dixon. "We can no longer think of cancer care just within the walls of specialized Ontario cancer centres. Cancer centres, Hospitals, Community Care Access Centres and other essential community and volunteer services will be the backbone to a new system wide approach to care for patients throughout the new Central East Health Integration Network," added Dr. Dixon who is also the VP of Cancer Services at the R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre.

The Plan proposes to: Strengthen the development and use of guidelines and standards across the province; Integrate and co-

ordinate services through strong regional cancer programs; Reduce the strain on services through prevention and screening and targeted capital investments; Speed up access to services; Improve performance through accountability measures; and Focus cancer research efforts.

"Cancer care is a serious concern for all of us. We cannot continue to meet the increasing demand for cancer services by maintaining the status quo. The Ontario Cancer Plan gives us opportunities to do things better and more efficiently by integrating and coordinating our services even more than we do today," said Fran O'Hara, Executive Director of Haliburton, Northumberland and Victoria Access Centre. "I am enthused by the sound priorities identified in the plan and I look forward to working with all of our partners to move it from paper to action," she added.

"Local hospitals play a big role in providing quality treatment and care to cancer patients. But no one health care provider can be all things to all patients," said Keith Sansford, CEO of Haliburton Highlands Health Services. "Working on clear deliverables like regional cancer programs, rapid access strategies and increasing overall capacity will help all of us ensure that patients get the right care, in the right place, at the right time."

"That's why senior leaders from the Central East Health Integration Network recently met to begin work towards better integration of cancer care for all our patients," added Mr. Sansford.

"To have the greatest impact on the treatment and lives of cancer patients, we need to do more..."

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Local Girl Awarded by Equestrian Federation

On November 27th at the Ontario Equestrian Federation's annual conference, held in Kitchener, Jocelyn Donaldson of Harcourt, received recognition for her many hours spent in the saddle.

In June of 2001 the OEF produced a program, Ride Ontario, to reward time spent in the saddle, for its members. The riders/drivers receive a log book and log each hour they ride or drive. At certain numbers of hours they get rewarded with a crest and a gift.



Jocelyn Donaldson received the recognition as the Junior Rider with the most logged hours to date, which is 1,626 hours. She will be working on obtaining Level 6, which is 2000 hours, over the course of the winter months.

At present, she belongs to the Simcoe Pony Club (has been a member for the past 3



years) and competes in Prince Philip Games, Showjumping, Dressage, D Rally and Quiz. She also attends local horse shows and is a trail guide at South Algonquin Trails, Harcourt, Ontario.



Happy Holidays!



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For The Kids

- How do you make an idiot laugh on boxing day ?
Tell him a joke on Christmas Eve !
- What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas ?
Thanks, I'll never part with it !
- What do you get if you cross an apple with a Christmas tree ?
A pineapple !
- How long does it take to burn a candle down ?
About a wick !
- What did Adam say on the day before Christmas ?
It's Christmas, Eve !
- What did the guest sing at the Eskimo's Christmas party ?
Freeze a jolly fellow !
- Why couldn't the skeleton go to the Christmas Party ?
He had no body to go with !
- Where does Frosty the Snowman keep his money?
In a snow bank.
- How does Santa Claus take pictures?
With a North Pole-aroid camera.
- What kind of food do you get when you cross a blizzard with a polar bear?
A brrr-grrr! (burger)
- Did you hear that one of Santa's reindeer now works for Proctor and Gambel?
Its true....Comet cleans sinks!
- What do you call a cat on the beach at Christmas time?
Sandy Claus!
- What do you get when you cross an archer with a gift-wraper?
Ribbon hood.
- What do you get if you deep fry Santa Claus?
Crisp Cringle.

Happy Holidays

From Marion, Margo, Joanne,
and Heather

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1/2 c. dry oatmeal

1/2 c. birdseed

1/3 c. crystal sugar

1 heartfelt of Christmas hope

Mix ingredients together. On Christmas Eve sprinkle all over your lawn. The crystal sugar will shine in the moonlight and lead Santa to your house before dawn. **[DO NOT USE GLITTER AS IT IS TOXIC FOR BIRDS AND WILDLIFE]** The smell of the oats will guide the reindeer directly to your rooftop. The Christmas hope in the magic reindeer food guarantees dear Santa will stop.

What's The Holiday Without Egg Nog?

Christmas isn't Christmas to some people without eggnog! That's right. An old tradition in this country and even older in other countries throughout the world such as England—where good old eggnog was invented in the 17th century. You see, "nog" is the English word for ale (which can be any type of liquor—from rum to bourbon or the liqueur of your choice).

Originally, eggnog was used for medicinal purposes—served to those "serfs" who were under the weather. It wasn't long before people realized it tasted too good to be medicine, and it became a holiday treat. It has traveled from England to Puerto Rico where it is called coquito and mixed with rum. To Mexico where it is called rompopo and mixed with Mexican cinnamon and grain alcohol. To Peru where it is called biblia con pisco and mixed with pisco—a Peruvian pomace brandy. And to Germany where it is called Biersuppe (egg soup with beer) and where it is a hot dessert.

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The Origin of Greeting Cards

Leaflets expressing good wishes appeared at the beginning of the XVth century and are the ancestors of greeting cards. These were followed by XVIIIth century print versions which merchants sent their customers on New Year's.

The greeting cards we exchange at Christmas or New Year's and which are so much a part of our holiday traditions have their origins in England. The custom quickly developed in Europe, especially in Germany, because of a brand-new printing process perfected by Aloys Senefelder in 1796. Lithography, as the technique was called, could be used to reproduce large numbers of drawings or texts first drawn on a finely-textured stone.

The first postage stamp was issued in England in 1840 and the first series of envelopes decorated with Christmas designs was published the same year. Three years later, the first greeting card appeared. It was produced by John Calcott Horsley for Sir Henry Cole. This card depicted a family enjoying Christmas celebrations



An Old Greeting Card

and lifting their glasses in a toast. The scene greatly shocked temperance workers who quickly denounced it.

The first "American" greeting card is said to be the work of a German lithographer, Louis Prang, who emigrated to New York around 1850.

Prang set up a workshop in Boston, Massachusetts in 1860 and began to produce the first coloured cards. At the time, however, greeting cards were more often linked to New Year's than to Christmas

In Canada, the production of cards began between 1870 and 1880 and were simple adaptations of the works of Krieghoff, Bartlett, Massicotte and Henri Julien depicting typical winter activity or sports scenes. Up until the end of the First World War, however, most of the cards sold in Canada came from the United Kingdom and the United States.

The practice of sending greeting cards to friends and relations for New Year's spread fairly rapidly in England, in Germany and in North America. After 1880 the Christmas card gradually came to replace the New Year's card and really gathered speed with large-scale marketing. Department stores even began to sell greeting card assortments through their catalogues.

The shift to Christmas has not taken place in France where cards are almost always sent to convey New Year's greetings



Allow More Time...

So many people create unnecessary stress for themselves because they leave no room in their schedule for problems or delays. Give yourself about a third again as much time. Then if nothing interferes, you can finish ahead of schedule, but if something does, you've already allowed extra time.

**You know you're getting old when:
Getting lucky means you found your
car in the parking lot.**

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes For The New Year

Thank you to all my customers. Your support is heartfelt, and I look forward to working together with you in the new year.

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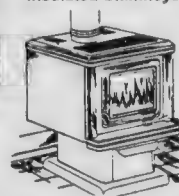
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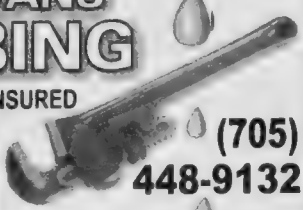


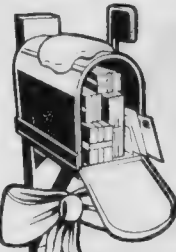
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Urban Legends

Claim: Poinsettia plants are poisonous to humans.

Status: *False.*

Have you ever heard a warning like the following? Don't ever let your kids eat the poinsettias! They are deadly poisonous, and every year several poor unsuspecting little ones are killed at Christmas time by taking just the slightest nibble from a poinsettia plant.

Scary stuff. Luckily for us, it's not true. It's a wonderfully persistent myth though, and it seems to have arisen from a long-ago death of a child's being attributed to the wrong cause. From a fact sheet prepared by Ecke Poinsettia Growers:

The poinsettia poison myth had its origin in 1919 when a two-year-old child of an Army officer stationed in Hawaii died of poisoning, and the cause was incorrectly assumed to be a poinsettia leaf. Since that non-poinsettia death in 1919, there haven't been any real ones either. And no wonder: a 50 lb. child would have to eat more than 1.25 lbs. of poinsettia bracts (about 500 to 600 leaves) to exceed the experimental doses, according to the POISINDEX Information Service. (POISINDEX is the primary resource used by most poison control centers.) Further, the American Medical Association's *Handbook of Poisonous and Injurious Plants* lists nothing more than occasional vomiting as a side effect of ingesting otherwise harmless poinsettia leaves. And in 1975 the Consumer Products Safety Commission cited lack of substantial evidence in its decision to deny a petition requiring warning labels for poinsettias.

Claim: The term "Immaculate Conception" refers to the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary.

Status: *False.*

Origins: The term "immaculate conception" is often used generally to denote the conception of a child by a woman who has not engaged in sexual intercourse, and specifically to the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary. Both usages are incorrect.

"Immaculate Conception" refers to neither the conception of Jesus nor to a virgin birth. It is a specific doctrine of Roman Catholicism decreeing that the Virgin Mary was preserved free from original sin by divine grace from the moment of her conception. Although this dogma had been argued since the twelfth century, it was not made official until 1854 by Pope Pius IX. Since then December 8 has been observed as a Roman Catholic feast in commemoration of the Immaculate Conception.



We've added a new little filler called what's worse. It will pose silly little thoughts to ponder of what's worse.

What's Worse...

Stubbing your toe on a rock?
Getting poked in the eye?

What is Boxing Day?

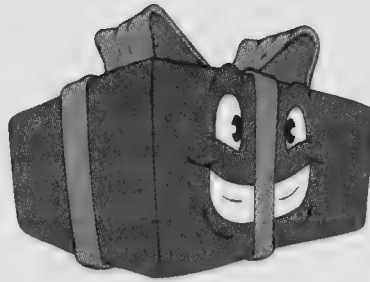
We've all heard The name of Boxing Day comes from the need to rid the house of empty boxes the day after Christmas, but this is not really the true meaning of boxing day.

Even though Boxing Day is celebrated in Australia, Britain, New Zealand, and Canada, not all that many in those countries have much of a notion as to why they get the 26th of December off. Boxing Day might well be a statutory holiday in some of those lands, but it's not a well understood one.

Despite the lively images suggested by the name, it has nothing to do with pugilistic expositions between tanked-up family members who have dearly been looking forward to taking a round out of each other for the past year. Likewise, it does not gain its name from the overpowering need to rid the house of an excess of wrappings and mountains of now useless cardboard boxes the day after St. Nick arrived to turn a perfectly charming and orderly home into a maelstrom of discarded tissue paper.

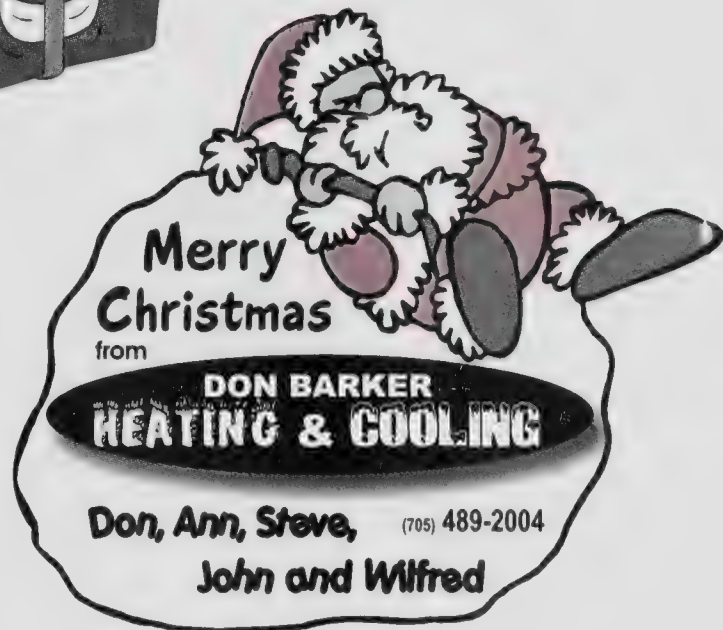
The name also has nothing to do with returning unwanted gifts to the stores they came from, hence its common association with hauling about boxes on the day after Christmas.

The holiday's roots can be traced to Britain, where Boxing Day is also known as St. Stephen's Day. Reduced to the simplest essence, its origins are found in a long-ago practice of giving cash or durable goods to those of the lower classes. Gifts among equals were exchanged on or before Christmas Day, but beneficences to those less fortunate were bestowed the day after.



The 3 stages of man:

He believes in Santa Claus.
He doesn't believe in Santa Claus.
He is Santa Claus.



George Moore

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George, a licensed electrician, owned and operated Moore Electric in Durham Region for 30 years. Recently he and his wife, Kay, decided to sell their business and home in Bowmanville and relocated permanently to Minden, where they cottaged for 40 years. George is looking forward to meeting & servicing new customers in this area.

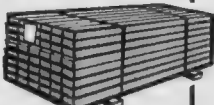
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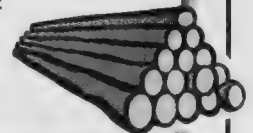
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Can you spot the 10
differences...



Letter L is bigger in word due
Letter E missing on sign
Santa's mouth is bigger
Santa's pocket is missing
Penguin tail is blue not green
Penguin bowtie missing
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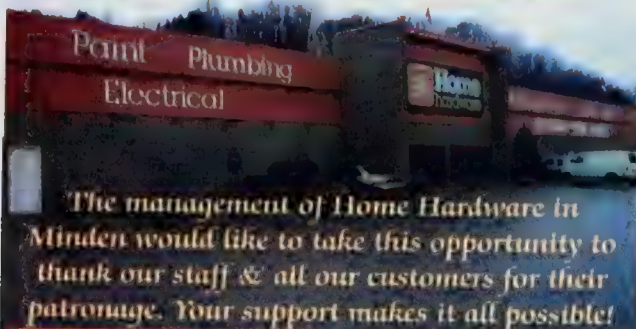
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all the best this holiday season
and a very happy & prosperous
new year.



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Seasons Greetings

from Jim, Andrea & Staff



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Essonville Church: The Little Church with Tons of Spirit & History

by Stephen Patrick

The history, and revival, of Christ Church, Essonville, is a testament to a community's refusal to allow its past to slip away, quiet and unnoticed. The beautiful little Anglican church was built in 1888 from three giant pines that grew there on the church property (the stumps can be seen to this day). The logs were drawn over land by horses to the Dunford Mill on the Irondale River at South Wilberforce and returned by the same route.

John James Noble, an early settler, helped to build the church and he and his wife Elizabeth were the first to be married there: John Noble became the People's Warden and remained so for over a half century, finally stepping down when his wife died in 1950. Other early pioneers and church members

names included Rowbotham, Henry, Somerville, Saunders, Bradley, and Johnson.

In the early 1950s the congregation dwindled and the little white church was deconsecrated. The Anglican Church formally deeded it to Monmouth Township, and by the late 1980s the church was in a state of advanced decay. But the community refused to let it die. Norma Walsh got things going by suggesting that the stained glass windows be fixed. Paul Way, Teresa Riley, Ken Noble, Ken Sanderson, Elois Somerville and many others soon joined in to paint and refurbish the building. Shortly afterwards The Essonville Historic Church Board was set up, and has been in charge of the church ever since.



To celebrate the past, and the survival of the church, the Board holds two major events. In the summer a Memorial Service is held, and on the last Sunday before Christmas a Carol service is held. This gives life back to the Church and reminds the community of the ongoing need for help for continued maintenance and upkeep. Work bees are held annually, and your help would be welcome. The church may also be used for weddings and



funerals.

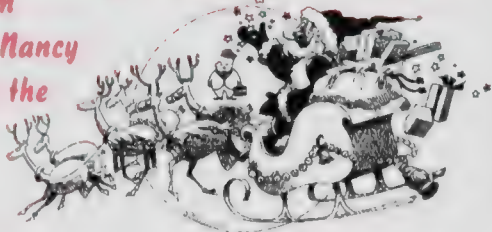
John Noble's grandson Kenneth is the current Board President, and Elois Somerville Secretary. Norma Walsh is, sadly, critically ill in a Toronto hospital. All Board members want to take this opportunity to remember all her years of service to the church and pray for her recovery.

If you would like to help out in any way with the continuing maintenance and support for the church, or would like to book an

Essonville Church cont'd... pg. 59...

Holiday Greetings!

from
Mac & Nancy
and all the
Staff.



*Wishing Everyone A Safe & Happy
Holiday Season!*



SCHWANDTS

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GOODERHAM
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WILBERFORCE **Hometown Advantage!**
IGA

448-2811



Merry Christmas
from
everyone at the
Wilberforce IGA

Essonville Church cont'd....

... from pg. 58

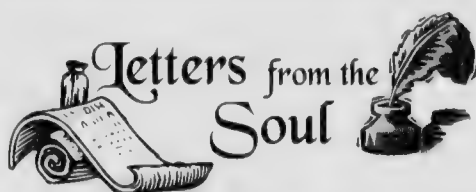


Pictured left to right in the church are Ken Hill, Elois Somerville & Ken Noble

event, please contact Board Members Robert McCrea at 705 448-3449, or Kenneth Noble at 448-1604 or Elois Somerville at 448-2760.

It was particularly enjoyable for this reporter to visit the Essonville Church and to be welcomed by Board Members Ken Noble, Ken Hill and Elois Somerville. I'd known that my own family had an Essonville connection, but hadn't realized that the Reverend Francis Battersby, in 1907, had become the church's minister and lived in the manse just west of the church. Reverend Battersby was married to Agnes Orde, a first cousin once removed of my late mother, Jean Orde. In some family notes my mother recalled that she "met the Rev. Francis and Cousin Aggie when I was young and remember careening about the countryside with Rev. Francis who drove an old Ford like a fiend!"

So the little church, and its history, lives on in many and varied ways.



A Collection of Poetry, Short Stories, Sketches, and other Creative Works.

On the Eve

By Tina Heathcock

boughs' bouquet
linger of roast goose
firelights' crackle
mingle
carols, giggles, wishes

on unadorned
branches
the first candle is lit
the next and the next

in the silence
we stand together
alight
in the moment
of Christmas

Holidays Wishes from
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Back Hoe Service

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Holiday Greetings!!



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Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!



448-3495

You know you're getting old when: The
twinkle in your eye is only a reflection from
the sun on your bifocals.

**Season's Greetings
& Best Wishes!**



from the
Royal Canadian Legion
Branch 624, Wilberforce, Ont.



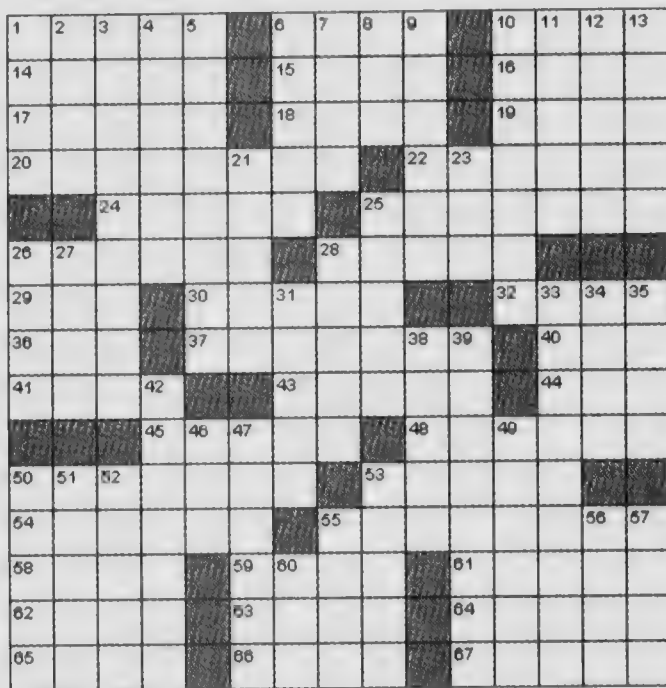
Wishing you a
Merry Christmas!

**Rodney Hogan
Excavating**

448-2318

Happy New Year!

Monthly Crossword



Across

- 1 Thighbone
- 6 Storm preceder
- 10 Actress Blanchett
- 14 Fuming
- 15 Diva's song
- 16 Speck
- 17 Wearied
- 18 Suffix with old or young
- 19 Be dispirited
- 20 Repeats
- 22 Happy sort
- 24 Regulations
- 25 Poetic Percy
- 26 "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under _"
- 28 Saudi monetary unit
- 29 Biblical affirmative
- 30 Fancy watch
- 32 Take down _
- 36 Hippie's hangout
- 37 Bridge support
- 40 "Bali _"
- 41 Endangered antelope
- 43 Six-Day War leader
- 44 Smart opening?
- 45 Sorrowful poem
- 48 Sign of life
- 50 What I love, in song
- 53 Lowly workers
- 54 Captured again
- 55 Set of circumstances
- 58 Karl or Groucho?
- 59 Movie star Sharif
- 61 Eye makeup
- 62 Nobelist Wiesel
- 63 Confab
- 64 Key in
- 65 Inanimate
- 66 Sacred
- 67 Escritiores

Down

- 1 South Pacific republic
- 2 Proof word
- 3 Prepared
- 4 Starter home?
- 5 Critical warning
- 6 Lawsuits
- 7 _ and crafts
- 8 Tell tall tales
- 9 Boggy
- 10 Mrs Parker-Bowles
- 11 Lagoon site
- 12 Pith helmet
- 13 Abrasive substance
- 21 " _ coffee?"
- 23 "Give _ break!"
- 25 Threescore
- 26 Printing error
- 27 Listen and pay attention
- 28 Express again
- 31 Shelf
- 33 Gamekeeper's concern
- 34 Bridge player
- 35 Actress Lillian
- 38 Classify
- 39 Registered
- 42 Copied in the office
- 46 Cambodian's neighbor
- 47 Former Big Apple mayor
- 49 Head of a train
- 50 Ready for battle
- 51 Positive Thinking propo-
nent
- 52 Open-air rooms
- 53 Political group
- 55 Phoenician god
- 56 Humble
- 57 Miscalculates
- 60 Conductance unit

Season's Greetings!
from

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Shop Service**

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Hydraulic Hose Crimping & Fittings

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RR#1 Tory Hill

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answers on pg. 62...

Happy Holidays



Hoping your
holiday season
is full of love
and laughter.
Our thanks
and best wishes
go out to all in
the community.



Hyland Ice Supply Wilberforce

Season's Greetings

from the Stoughton's

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THAT'S LIFE ...

by the Bashful Comic



Rules for Getting Through Christmas

*This is always good for a laugh!!! Enjoy
Submitted by Bob Adams of Wilberforce*

1. Avoid carrot sticks. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Christmas spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately. Go next door, where they're serving rum balls.
2. Drink as much eggnog as you can. And quickly. Like fine single-malt scotch, it's rare. In fact, it's even rarer than single-malt scotch. You can't find it any other time of year but now. So drink up! Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every sip? It's not as if you're going to turn into an eggnog-aholic or something. It's a treat. Enjoy it. Have one for me. Have two. It's later than you think. It's Christmas!
3. If something comes with gravy, use it. That's the whole point of gravy. Gravy does not stand alone. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.
4. As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If it's skim, pass. Why bother? It's like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.
5. Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Christmas party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Hello?
6. Under no circumstances should you exercise between now and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table while carrying a 10-pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.
7. If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention. They're like a beautiful pair of shoes. If you leave them behind, you're never going to see them again.
8. Same for pies. Apple. Pumpkin. Mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or, if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have three. When else do you get to have more than one dessert? Labour Day?
9. Did someone mention fruitcake? Granted, it's loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards.
10. One final tip: If you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Reread tips: start over, but hurry, January is just around the corner.

**You know you're getting old when: it takes
twice as long to look half as good.**



SEASON'S GREETINGS



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Season's Greetings!

✂ The Management & Staff of
M.W. HUNTER LUMBER LIMITED

*Wish Everyone a Very
Merry Christmas ...
And Happy New Year!*



**You know you're getting old when: Every-
thing hurts and what doesn't hurt
doesn't work.**



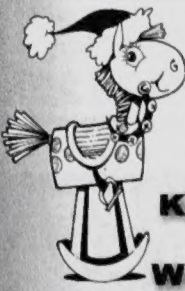
Season's Greetings

from Darlene & Mary

448-2311

Bowes & Cocks Ltd.
Wilberforce





Happy Holidays

from
**Kenwood Forest
Products &
Wilberforce Esso**

448-1125 (Esso) • 448-3459 (Kenwood)



The winner of last month's draw for Dinner for two at Win Yeung's Chinese Restaurant is
Carole Jansen, of Haliburton
Congratulations!!

Who Dun-it Solution

Answer: Minden observed that there was no towel or robe near the pool. Even a hardy swimmer would normally have a towel or robe since it was a 60 foot walk to the house, especially in October when it would be especially chilly when dripping wet after a swim. He has deduced that the scene had been staged, and had a suspect in Mr. Leeza.

1	F	2	E	3	M	4	U	5	R	6	C	7	A	8	L	9	M	10	C	11	A	12	T	13	E
14	I	15	R	16	A	17	T	18	E	19	R	20	I	21	A	22	A	23	T	24	O	25	M	26	
27	J	28	A	29	D	30	E	31	D	32	T	33	E	34	R	35	M	36	O	37	P	38	E	39	
40	I	41	T	42	E	43	R	44	A	45	T	46	E	47	S	48	S	49	M	50	I	51	L	52	E
53		54	R	55	U	56	L	57	E	58	S	59	S	60	H	61	E	62	L	63	L	64	E	65	Y
66	T	67	H	68	E	69	S	70	E	71	A	72	R	73	I	74	Y	75	A	76	L	77		78	
79	Y	80	E	81	A	82	R	83	O	84	L	85	E	86	X	87	A	88	P	89	E	90	G	91	
92	P	93	A	94	D	95	T	96	R	97	E	98	S	99	T	100	L	101	E	102	H	103	A	104	I
105	O	106	R	107	Y	108	X	109	D	110	A	111	Y	112	A	113	N	114	E	115	S	116	S	117	
118		119	E	120	G	121	Y	122	B	123	R	124	E	125	A	126	T	127	H	128		129		130	
131	A	132	P	133	A	134	R	135	A	136	D	137	E	138	P	139	E	140	O	141	N	142	S	143	
144	R	145	E	146	T	147	O	148	O	149	K	150	B	151	A	152	L	153	L	154	G	155	A	156	E
157	M	158	A	159	R	160	X	161	O	162	M	163	A	164	R	165	L	166	I	167	N	168	E	169	R
170	E	171	L	172	I	173	E	174	C	175	H	176	A	177	T	178	E	179	N	180	T	181	E	182	R
183	D	184	E	185	A	186	D	187	H	188	O	189	L	190	Y	191	D	192	E	193	S	194	K	195	S

Spot Sam The Advertising Man for your Chance to Win \$50!

How would you like to win \$50 cash? Well it's easy with the Communicator!

Just read all the ads and keep an eye out for Sam – The advertising man. We will be hiding a few Sams in various ads throughout the publication, so look for more than one. Once you think you have found all the Sams you can, write down how many you spotted, in what ads, the publication date, your name, address and telephone number, and mail them, email them or fax them to the Highlands Communicator.



The first correct answer pulled from entries received wins \$50! It's that easy and it's fun too!

There were 12 sams in the last issue. They were hidden in the following ads: County Sign & Display, A Little Bit of Everything, IGA Haliburton, Robert Austin Fuels, Youngdale Fuels, Triple T Transmission, Trails & Tours, Donald Lange, My Size, Sharpley Source for Sports, Blair Sawmill, Steve's Contracting

The winner of last month's Spot Sam contest is
Wendy Butler of Minden

Thanks to Mary & Gerrit Pain of Haliburton for the getting old jokes!!

Win Romantic Winter Get-a-Way for Two

How would you like to win...
A Romantic weekend Get-A-Way for Two at the beautiful BonnieView Inn!!

How to win?... We did a story on Bonnieview Inn. Answer the followin questions pertaining to the story and each correct entry will be eligible for the grand prize draw taking place January 15th, 2005.

Bonnieview Inn - pg. 41

- 1: What year was BonnieView opened?
- 2: Who is the Chef at BonnieView?
- 3: How did BonnieView get it's name?

Send in your entries along with your name, address & phone number to:

Romantic Winter Get-a-Way
c/o The Communicator
Box 332 Wilberforce, Ont. K0L 3C0
or email: bonnieview@thecomunicator.ca

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Nordic Notes

by Blake Paton

Well, let's all get ready for another great winter! I can feel it in my bones, this will one whopper of an old-timey winter.

Skiing and grooming has already begun on the lit loop at Glebe Park, so it is definitely time to renew ski passes or become a ski club member. The lit loop at Glebe is open until 9:00 every night.

The Haliburton Highlands Cross Country Ski Club, known locally as THE ski club is in the midst of its membership renewals. Our keen new membership secretary, Joleen Thomas, claimed first tracks by skiing on December 2nd. Contact Joleen with your membership inquiries, by e-mail at joleen@boatwerks.net or by calling 286-3649.

The Haliburton Ski Club was once renowned for running some of the best races around. We were pleased to host OFSAA and the OUA championships over the years. Unfortunately that reputation faded as the club was unable to present races over the past few seasons due to logging and various construction projects that interfered with the trails.

Now that the dust has settled from the SSFC construction at Glebe we have volunteered to host a race on January 8th. It will be free technique event (or "skating" as some people prefer), and we plan to have categories for all.

Thank-you to Charlie Muli of Minden Subaru and the Brogdens for offering prize donations to that allowed us to expand the categories. There is an under 12 category and another for skier 70 years and older, plus age-group categories for everyone in between.

Event information and an entry form is available at www.skihaliburton.ca, and you save money by registering early.

This event will also help to showcase various trail changes and improvements at Glebe Park. Better trails and a revamped stadium area will make the action even more fun to watch. Spectators are welcome and the racing starts at 10:00 on January 8th.

Please consider volunteering to help provide an excellent event to the ski community, if you're not racing, that is! Send a message to bpaton@sypatico.ca if you want to lend a hand.

Also beginning January 8th is the clubs Jackrabbit program. This is a ski program for children from ages 4 to 13 years. Cross Country Canada has revised the skill development program this year. The Bunnyrabbits, for 4-6 year olds, now have their own skill sticker and badge program. The new Jackrabbit program for 6-9 year olds has 5 technique levels. The third stage/level is Junior Racing Development for 10-13 year olds.

There are awards stickers that provide incentives to improve technique, endurance and speed, but the most important goal is to learn that winter and snow provide a great opportunity for outdoor enjoyment and adventure. SATURDAYS AT GLEBE PARK – Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 2005. Call Jane for more information at 457-1465



MAKE FRIENDS WITH WINTER

The Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network has once again partnered with outdoor centres in the Haliburton Highlands to present a series of hand-on, skill-building winter workshops. Each workshop runs from 10:00 a.m. - 4 p.m. There's a little something for everyone and each includes lunch and all the gear you'll need for the day. Space for all workshops is limited so be sure to register in advance.

Dogsledding - Saturday January 15th
at Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve
members \$115 Non-Members \$125

Ice Climbing - Saturday, January 29th
at Medeba Outdoor Adventure Learning Centre
Members \$50 Non-Members \$65

Snoeshoeing - Saturday, February 5th
at Bark Lake Leadership Centre
Members \$50 Non-Members \$65

Luging - Saturday, February 12th
at Redstone River Luge Club
Members \$50 Non-Members \$65

Snoeshoeing - Saturday, February 26th
at YMCA Camp Wanakita
Members \$50 Non-Members \$65

Come out and make friends with winter... you'll be glad you did!

For more information or to register, contact:

Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network

705-489-4049 www.trailsandtours.com info@trailsandtours.on.ca

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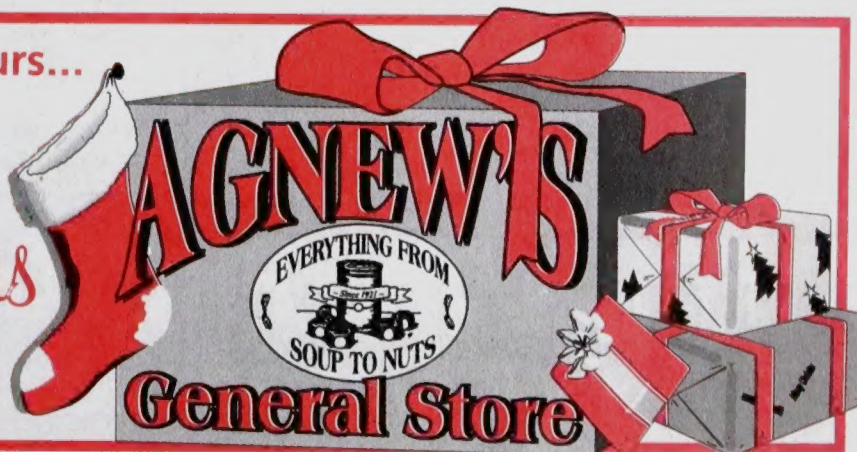
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Kennisis Lake



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Brady Lake



Neat, clean, beautifully decorated in this 3 bdrm, 1140 sq ft home/cottage. With a 3 pc ensuite and balcony off the guest bdrm, oak kitchen, cedar cathedral ceiling in living room with w/o to 3 sided deck. Sand beach, deep water and open lake view, fully insulated 2 car garage.

\$289,900.00

Kennisis Lake



What a view of prestigious Kennisis Lake. Algonquin type lot, deep water, deck & dock at water. 2 bedroom A frame cottage. Vendor used cottage this past winter, has winter water system but needs some upgrades to make fully winterized.

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Kennisis Lake

See this great building lot. Several building sites offering spectacular views of Kennisis Lake. Absolute privacy on this 8 acre property. 800 ft. shore line varies with flat rock, sand pockets, larger rock sections and a point. Sheltered area for boat protection. Sunsets come across the point and set on the opposite shore. This rare large property is being offered at

\$575,000.00

Private Lake



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Pine Lake



Seasons Greetings

Gloria & Cindy

We would like to take this time to thank all of our customers and friends old and new for a wonderful year. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. No matter where we are we are always thinking of you and looking after you needs.

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